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# Daily Report

# Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-93-161
Monday
23 August 1993

# Daily Report
## Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-93-161 21 August 1993

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## Palestinian Affairs

### Fatah Officials, Members Criticize PLO Leadership

#### Lebanon Fatah Chief: 'Arafat Should Resign

*NC2308110193 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1045 GMT 23 Aug 93*

[Text] Munir al-Miqdah, the commander of the Fatah forces in Lebanon, today called on Yasir 'Arafat to resign his post as the PLO chairman. Al-Miqdah called on the Palestine National Council to hold an emergency meeting. The Fatah commander asked: How long must 'Arafat continue to watch the collapse of the Palestinian institutions?

#### Envoy Freezes Executive Committee Membership

*NC2208133793 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1300 GMT 23 Aug 93*

[Text] Shafiq al-Hut, PLO representative in Lebanon, announced today that he has suspended his PLO Executive Committee membership because he found that it is difficult for him to watch as the committee destroys itself.

Regarding the possibility of resigning, he said that a resignation can only be submitted to the Palestine National Council, which is not currently in session. Al-Hut's decision to freeze his membership comes in the wake of Mahmud Darwish's resignation.

#### PLO in 'Organizational Crisis'

*NC2208154293 Paris AFP in English 1503 GMT 22 Aug 93*

[Text] Beirut, Aug 22 (AFP)—A top PLO official on Sunday [22 August] announced his withdrawal from the organization's executive committee and joined growing Palestinian protests against the PLO leadership's handling of the Middle East peace talks.

Shafiq al-Hut said he had suspended his participation in the Palestine Liberation Organization's Executive Committee until the parliament in exile, the Palestine National Council (PNC), holds an emergency session to solve the "crisis."

Al-Hut, the PLO's representative in Lebanon, blamed the PLO leadership, whose chairman is Yasir 'Arafat, for the "PLO's political, financial and organizational crisis."

In a statement here, he warned against the "adventurous and indifferent" policies conducted by the PLO leadership in the Middle East peace talks with Israel.

Al-Hut slammed the "sidelining of the executive committee and the involvement of personalities who do not have official status in the PLO structure in decision-making.

"As a member of the executive committee, I find it unacceptable, along with my colleagues, to take responsibility for decisions made in our names which we have no knowledge of," he said.

Al-Hut said the PNC session should "work out a solution to the crisis in the PLO and establish whether there is confidence in the current PLO leadership."

He charged that the executive committee was being bypassed by a PLO leadership intent on making concessions to Israel without the approval of the formal bodies.

"The political, financial and organisational crisis of the PLO, which the current leadership is responsible for, is no longer a secret, and it is the national duty of all the figures, organisations and groups of the PLO to call for (the extraordinary session of parliament)," he said.

Three leading members of the Palestinian team negotiating with Israel offered their resignations earlier this month, but withdrew them after they said the PLO leadership had given them guarantees of better coordination.

The three had protested concessions 'Arafat had planned to make to Israel without consulting them.

The peace team takes its instructions from the PLO, which Israel has banned from direct participation in the talks.

#### Al-Hut: Resignation 'Final'

*NC2308074493 Shanayh Voice of the Mountain in Arabic 0430 GMT 23 Aug 93*

[Text] Financial, political, and organizational crises in the PLO and charges that some leaders are unable to find appropriate solutions have caused chaos resulting in resignations by some PLO members. Mahmud Darwish voiced opposition to the PLO's political performance and said he will devote himself to literary work.

Shafiq al-Hut, member of the PLO Executive Committee, has announced that he has suspended his participation in committee activities.

In an interview with the Voice of the Mountain yesterday he affirmed that there is trickery [tahayul] in the PLO leadership's political performance concerning strategy and tactics. He criticized the PLO leadership's exclusive control of resolutions without referring to the Palestine National Council or at least to the Central Council.

He spoke about the fiscal situation of the PLO, saying it is a very important factor in suspending his membership of the committee. He added: We were surprised by a financial crisis for which I have no answers. He called on the PLO to find a solution to this financial issue.

He said that Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] is in an unenviable position and is subjected to many pressures and

threats and that part of the responsibility lies with the Executive Committee members.

He asked: Is it sensible that we engage in peace negotiations in which Syria represents the strongest link without an understanding and coordination with Syria? He emphasized that he supports the negotiations but that uniting the Palestinian people is necessary, something that the PLO has not accomplished.

Al-Hut disclosed that he received a call from Yasir 'Arafat to dissuade him from submitting his resignation but he refused. He affirmed that his decision is final.

### Darwish Resignation Detailed

*NC2108153293 Paris AFP in English 1435 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Text] Tunis, Aug 21 (AFP) - Top PLO official Mahmud Darwish has resigned from the decision-making executive committee of the PLO, the organisation's information chief Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh said Saturday [21 August].

Darwish, a confidant of Palestine Liberation Organisation chief Yasir 'Arafat and a celebrated poet, presented his resignation to PLO headquarters here earlier in the week in order to "devote himself to cultural matters," 'Abd-Rabbuh said.

'Abd-Rabbuh dismissed newspaper reports that the resignation was politically motivated as "empty speculation."

'Abd-Rabbuh added that Darwish will remain a member of the Palestine National Council (PNC, the Palestinians' parliament in exile) and of the Central Council of the PLO.

Darwish will also continue as chairman of the Higher Palestinian Council of Education and Science.

Darwish will remain "close (to PLO leaders) for consultation on principal questions," 'Abd-Rabbuh said, adding that although the PLO "regretted" his resignation, the poet's devotion to literary activities would be "a service to Palestinian culture, of which he is the most illustrious symbol."

Darwish is believed to be a close friend of 'Arafat's, who personally persuaded him to stand as a candidate for the PNC at the last session of the "parliament" in August 1988.

Three leading members of the Palestinian delegation conducting peace talks with Israel presented their resignations to the PLO earlier this month amid a crisis over negotiating policy, but they were persuaded to withdraw them on August 12.

The Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, a hardline PLO faction, said from Damascus that Darwish's resignation was a new call for democratic reform within the PLO.

### 'Bitterness' Over Resignation

*JN2208165693 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1600 GMT 22 Aug 93*

[Text] In the occupied Palestinian territories, some leading members of the Palestinian delegation to the bilateral talks with Israel today expressed bitterness over the resignation of Palestinian poet Mahmud Darwish from the PLO Executive Committee.

Ghassan al-Khatib has said that the resignation of a figure that enjoys a great deal of respect, such as Mahmud Darwish, is new evidence of the crisis that prompted Faysal al-Husayni, Hanan 'Ashrawi, and Sa'ib 'Urayqat to tender their resignations. Al-Khatib added that this resignation shows the PLO leadership's failure to adopt a policy and a strategy that enjoy the support of a large sector of the Palestinian people.

Hanan 'Ashrawi, spokeswoman for the Palestinian delegation, said that Mahmud Darwish is a man of great integrity. His departure, if endorsed by the Palestinian leadership, will leave an enormous vacuum, she added.

### Qaddumi Denies Resignation Reports

*JN2108112093 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0850 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Text] Tunis, 21 Aug (SANA)—Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Bureau, has categorically denied certain Western news media reports that he and a number of PLO Executive Committee members have tendered their resignations.

In a statement to a SANA correspondent in Tunis, Qaddumi said he has not resigned, does not plan to do so, and—as one of the founders of the PLO—plans to remain. He said these reports reflect suspect media attempts aiming at shaking the unity of Palestinian ranks especially at this critical period in the life of the Palestinian cause.

### Hawatimah: Group Resignation Considered

*JN2208145493 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1400 GMT 22 Aug 92*

[Text] Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, has said in Damascus that Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, is the one responsible for the collapse of the PLO establishments and urged him to introduce democratic reforms into these establishments.

Hawatimah said the PLO is passing through a dangerous crisis and that a large number of Executive Committee members are considering tendering a collective resignation to protest what he described as 'Arafat's domination and monopoly of Palestinian decisionmaking.

### 'Arafat Comments on Position at Peace Talks

*LD2108211693 Algiers ENTV Television Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Excerpt] On this day in 1969, the Israeli occupation committed a serious crime. The occupation forces burned al-Aqsa Mosque. On this painful anniversary, the Arab League called on the international community to compel Israel to abide by the UN resolutions. Chairman 'Arafat had this to say:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent] With regard to the latest outcome of the peace negotiations—can we have your opinion?

['Arafat] As a matter of fact, and as I have explained to the chairman, the [word indistinct] is difficult and hard. An offer was made to us—to assume the posts early [not further clarified]. We reject such words, and we have officially rejected it. We communicated our rejection to Mr. Christopher in the memo we presented to him and, naturally, to the Israeli negotiating team—we told the latter that this was rejected. We have agreed to an interim solution that takes into account that there would be a transitional period of two years, and in the third year the final stage shall begin—the final stage in which the Palestinian people can enjoy independence and freedom in full and can establish our Palestinian state whose capital is holy Jerusalem, God willing. [end recording] [passage omitted]

### Discusses Current Peace Proposals

*NC2108075093 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0542 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Telephone interview with PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat at PLO headquarters in Tunis by Voice of Lebanon news director Wardah in Beirut—live]

[Text] [Wardah] Brother Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], let us begin with this: which of the following titles is closest to your heart, Fatah leader, PLO chairman, president of the state of Palestine, Old Man [al-Khityar], Abu-'Ammar, or Yasir 'Arafat? We bear in mind that those close to you call you brother Abu-'Ammar.

['Arafat] It is the closest thing, the closest name. Only Abu-'Ammar, Wardah.

[Wardah] Why did you choose it? Why is it the closest title to your heart, Abu-'Ammar?

['Arafat] It is the sort of name used between brothers, friends, a man and his girlfriend, a husband and his wife. You know that the use of Abu-so and so is common among us in the Orient. I have grown used to this name. A long time ago, when I was a building contractor and architect in Kuwait, a friend asked me: Would you like us to call you Abu-'Ammar. I was not married then. I said yes.

[Wardah] Certainly, Abu-'Ammar. We are now midway to the 11th round of negotiations. How do you assess the climate that has surrounded this round?

['Arafat] It is an important, basic climate. First of all, this round will follow Warren Christopher's recent shuttle tour. Before that, there was Dennis Ross' visit. While these visits were taking place, there was an insane escalation of assaults against the Palestinian camps and Lebanese towns and villages. Regional tension was raised to an abnormal level. And if this shows anything, it shows that something is being cooked up. Perhaps it is being cooked on a low fire and in a certain way, but one thing is certain: The recent escalation of attacks is directly linked to what is being cooked up. Additionally, we must note that the blessed intifadah inside our occupied land is being intensified. Likewise, we must note the current important internal debate among the Israeli ruling circles in their quest to reach agreements on the Lebanese, Syrian, Palestinian, or Jordanian negotiating tracks. As you know, Christopher was making efforts in this connection, moving back and forth between Syria and Israel, Lebanon and Israel, and Jordan and Israel. Finally—and this is the important point—there was talk about some form of disengagement in Gaza and Jericho. When we say Jericho, we mean in its capacity as part of the West Bank. Two things were being discussed. First of all, there was the question of making a Palestinian-Israeli declaration of principles, something we have so far failed to agree on with the Israelis. U.S., Russian, and European efforts are being made to help us reach such a declaration of principles. You know that the Palestinian negotiating track has faced the greatest obstacles until now. The next round of negotiations must produce a breakthrough on this track. As is known and agreed upon by the five foreign ministers [the cordon states' foreign ministers and the PLO representative], the solution must have an Arab and comprehensive character. This is the climate, and these are the objectives that surround the next round of talks. As you know, my brothers the foreign ministers of the cordon states will hold a meeting in Beirut on 25 August [as heard] before we decide if we will participate in this new round of negotiations. However, all signs indicate so far that there is no obstacle barring the Arab delegations' participation in this round.

[Wardah] So, briefly, how do you describe the atmosphere surrounding this round?

['Arafat] We can say that, according to the Americans, it is encouraging. But as far as we are concerned, we will wait and see.

[Wardah] The Syrians are advising against holding another round before making sure that there is real chance for progress. What do you say? Have you received any assurances in this respect?

['Arafat] I can say that the Syrian fears are in order. We have the same fears. This is what I meant when I said that the atmosphere is encouraging according to the

American terminology, but the Palestinian, Syrian, Lebanese, Jordanian, and Egyptian terminology (?is different). So, these are not Arab expressions, they are American ones. We have to wait and see.

[Wardah] Abu-'Ammar, the problem between the PLO and the knights of negotiations has ended, though in form only, but it basically revealed the need for a unified Palestinian authority to be recognized by all sides. This is needed at this time in particular. What is your opinion? How can you face up to this challenge, especially since many sides are continuing their infiltration attempts?

['Arafat] First, there is no crisis as such. You know that our democracy, which we take pride in, is a little overdone. But do not forget that this democracy is one of the most important shields that protect the Palestinian movement. This democracy is being upheld by great people. Therefore, I am proud that I am leading these revolutionaries and not a herd of sheep. They are revolutionaries and knights who have a right to express their opinions on all issues, big or small. There may be opinions in the Palestinian arena that are different from my own, but as Voltaire said: I may disagree with your opinion, but I will defend to the death your right to express it.

The recent summer cloud proved beyond any doubt that the PLO is the negotiator, the authority, the origin, and the party that Israel has tried to avoid and that the United States has tried to ignore. But, Wardah, no one can screen the sun with his hand. The PLO exists on the political and geographic maps. It exists in the hearts and minds of the Palestinian people. It is not merely an organization: it is the Palestinian identity, and it will continue to be so until the Palestinian flag, God willing, is raised over the walls, minarets, and churches of Jerusalem, the capital of the state of Palestine.

[Wardah] Abu-'Ammar, will the PLO adopt measures to bring the negotiators into the PLO fold? Are there plans to hold an inter-Palestinian dialogue in light of the current circumstances? When will this dialogue take place?

['Arafat] Sister Wardah, the dialogue has begun. It took place during the PLO leadership's expanded preliminary meeting, which was attended by the principal members of our negotiating team, including the three members who tendered their resignation. However, the PLO Executive Committee refused to accept their resignation. They are strugglers in a main arena, namely, the arena of negotiations.

Nobody should think that negotiations are an easy battle. It's a battle [word indistinct] between our enemies and ourselves. Our enemies have many friends in the world. We also have friends, but our enemies' friends are more within the new world order.

[Wardah] Will the PLO adopt measures to bring the negotiators into the PLO fold?

['Arafat] What fold? They have been members of the PLO fold from the start. We had to abide by the ban imposed on us at the Madrid Conference. They did not go [to the negotiations] until I issued the decree in this regard, in my capacity as the PLO Executive Committee chairman and president of the state of Palestine.

No one can participate in the multilateral or bilateral talks unless a decision is issued by me in my capacity as the PLO chairman and president of the state of Palestine. We do not consider this issue as an ordinary one. It is a basic political issue. Since the very first moment, those people have been an indivisible part of the PLO fold.

[Wardah] Abu-'Ammar, are there contacts and dialogue with the Islamic Resistance Movement [Hamas]? And where do you agree and disagree with the group, particularly regarding the peace negotiations?

['Arafat] With due respect to my brothers in Hamas, I want to ask them—namely their esteemed leadership in Marj al-Zuhur [south Lebanon]—why they are not flying a Palestinian flag over their camp? And why they are flying Iranian flags instead? Does this mean they want to renounce the Palestinian flag? If this is the case, our people will have a response to that. If they do not like the Palestinian flag [words indistinct], we will not accept any interference in our internal affairs from any side, whether it is minor or major and whether this party is close to us or distant from us. We have a saying that goes: Let a thousand flowers bloom in the Palestinian garden and [words indistinct].

Another thing, there is a dialogue, and it is continuing. Our delegation met with U.S. envoy Dennis Ross. [Words indistinct] to ensure gradual return of our brothers the deportees. The results of this talk were conveyed to Israel, which responded positively. The first group of deportees will return in September, and this will be followed by successive groups.

The dialogue is continuing. We welcome it. [words indistinct] in Jordan, Egypt, and Sudan.

[Wardah] Abu-'Ammar, we must apologize to the dear listeners for the occasional bad telephone connection. What I want to do now is follow up on your answer to my former question. Statements made by the Hamas people show that they do not regard you and the PLO as their representatives. What is your comment?

['Arafat] [Words indistinct] from their highest sources inside the occupied territories that the PLO is the Palestinian people's symbol and leader of their struggle. However, they have [word indistinct] and views that we respect and appreciate. We proceed from the Palestinian democratic principle that the majority will respect the minority's views but that the minority will comply with the majority's views. We are acting in line with resolutions adopted by the PLO Central Council and the Palestine National Council. It is these resolutions that determine our political and organizational actions and

other matters connected with the resistance. Based on this [word indistinct] sister Wardah, we call on them and welcome them to cooperate with us within the Palestinian house. Our slogan is let a thousand flowers bloom.

[Wardah] Abu-'Ammar, there have been numerous reports about proposals to implement a piecemeal settlement by postponing the discussion of controversial issues to the final stage of talks. There are also proposals to implement a Palestinian-Israeli disengagement in stages beginning with a withdrawal from Gaza, Jericho, and parts of the West Bank. Does the PLO Chairman accept such a proposal? Will this line be adopted in the coming stage?

['Arafat] When we went to the Madrid conference, sister Waroah, we did so on the understanding that there will be a two-stage solution to the Palestinian issue. First, a Palestinian authority would be established in the occupied territories in the transitional stage. Note that it should be an authority [sultah]. They call it arrangements, but we call it an authority. Later, during the third year of the transitional period, the arrangements and negotiations pertaining to the final stage would begin. We went to the Madrid conference on these grounds. True, they were unfair grounds, but we are now trying to improve the conditions. We have asked: Why should we not have something similar on the Palestinian front to what happened on the other Arab fronts, that is, disengagement and Israeli withdrawal from the Gaza Strip? They said Gaza first. We said Gaza and Jericho, so that part of the West Bank would be included in the disengagement and Israeli withdrawal proposal. This would constitute a show of goodwill by the two sides, and, at the same time, the Palestinian interim authority would be established in the remaining territories until we are able to hold free elections. These elections should be free of any hint of internal or foreign influences.

[Wardah] Will this line be pursued in the next stage or not?

['Arafat] We are trying to improve the settlement conditions, but when we joined the process we accepted these conditions. We know them. Our Arab brothers know them as well. Still we always try to (?improve) them. For example, they keep trying to evade the Jerusalem issue. I declare, however, that Jerusalem is not merely a Palestinian issue but a Palestinian, Arab, Islamic, and Christian cause. Not one among us would relinquish an atom of Jerusalem or the homeland. This is why we insisted on having it put on record that the Jerusalem issue would be discussed during the third year of the transitional period. Other issues would include matters pertaining to refugees, the displaced, and similar basic issues.

[Wardah] Abu-'Ammar, in the exchanged documents concerning the negotiations, there was much clamor about the status of Jerusalem. Would you end this clamor by telling the truth about this status in the context of the current developments?

['Arafat] I want to tell everybody that if Rabin considers (?Jerusalem) not negotiable, I, too, consider Jerusalem not negotiable. [words indistinct] Holy Jerusalem, Arab Jerusalem will, sooner or later, be the capital of the state of Palestine. The flag of Palestine, the flag of the Arab nation, will be raised over its walls, churches, and minarets by a young person from my homeland.

[Wardah] It is being said by Egyptian political-media sources that there is some progress in the Palestinian-Israeli track of negotiations. Where is this progress? Has Egypt received any American promises?

['Arafat] No, I believe that they mean the Israeli Gaza-first proposal. I responded to this proposal by suggesting both Gaza and Jericho first. I believe that there was some response regarding the Gaza-Jericho proposal, which is meant to prevent the division of the land and the inhabitants. This is a form of disengagement [words indistinct] first, and I believe they are speaking about this new [words indistinct], which Israeli Foreign Minister Peres has recently presented to the Knesset's Security and Foreign Affairs Committee. But do not forget, Wardah, that they said the same thing about [words indistinct] and about the Lebanese track, and the Jordanian track. Therefore, we have to wait and see.

[Wardah] Abu-'Ammar, what do you think of the proposed autonomy in Gaza and Jericho, especially since your spokesman Bassam Abu- Sharif called for the establishment of an interim Palestinian government with Jericho as its capital?

['Arafat] It is premature to discuss this. These are individual judgments, and I thank Bassam for his opinions. We are talking about a disengagement, not a solution. There will be elections and a self-rule authority, the authority of the Palestinian interim government, during the transitional stage.

[Wardah] The Jordanian crown prince has warned against Israel's intention to return to the policy of displacement and Palestinian infighting; that is, return to the Jordanian option as a solution to the Palestine question. Is there anything suggesting this in the occupied territories, or is this an implicit rejection of the confederation between the Palestinians and Jordanians as a means to get the negotiations out of the deadlock?

['Arafat] My last meeting with His Majesty King Husayn was useful. We discussed confederal Palestinian-Jordanian relations and agreed to form a higher political committee that would report to us everything [words indistinct]. There are seven committees, which are supposed to start their meetings next week. They are the Economic Committee; the Jerusalem Committee; the Border and Security Committee; the Committee on Water, Media, Culture, Science, and Arts; and other committees.

[Wardah] What about reports that Israel intends to displace Palestinians and provoke Palestinian infighting?

['Arafat] This is an old and a new dream. But you and everyone must rest assured that Palestinian unity is stronger than at any time before. We are fighting in one trench and on one front against a common enemy. Please be assured, and you may assure everyone, that all of us Hamas, Fatah, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, [Islamic] Jihad, the Arab Front, [words indistinct], the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, the People's Party, and the Popular Struggle Front are fighting alongside each other. There have been attempts to divide us, but these attempts will founder on the rocks of our strong, firm national unity.

[Wardah] Brother Abu-'Ammar, in view of the bad telephone connection, this will be my next to last question: What about reports that PLO headquarters will be transferred to Cairo to be closer to Palestine?

['Arafat] There is absolutely no truth to the reports on this subject. We address our love, thanks, and appreciation to Tunisia—president, government, and people—for playing host to the Palestinian revolution and the PLO, its cadres, institutions, and leadership.

[Wardah] My last question: When will Palestine president Yasir 'Arafat meet with the Israeli president and in what context and on what grounds will this meeting take place?

['Arafat] Could you kindly repeat the question?

[Wardah repeats the question]

['Arafat] Sister Wardah, I have often told them: Come to the peace of the brave, as de Gaulle did in Algeria and as de Klerk did with Mandela in South Africa. I have extended my hands to them. In my speech during the African summit in Cairo, I said that I extend my hands to the Israeli leadership to make together the peace of the brave to end the occupation and the sufferings and oppression of the Palestinian people and so that our children and theirs may live under the canopy of a just peace in the region. But I am still waiting for their reply.

I know that peace is more difficult than war. It requires courage, ability, and will to achieve peace.

[Wardah] Would you like to address a message over Voice of Lebanon to the Lebanese in particular and all listeners in general?

['Arafat] To the Lebanese people I say we have shared martyrdom, fate, suffering, and pain. We shared with them all this in thick and thin. This cohesion was demonstrated in the Beirut battle [in 1982] when 72,000 Lebanese and Palestinians were either killed or wounded during the Israeli invasion. It was also reflected during the recent bestial aggression against the Lebanese towns and villages and the Palestinian camps. What shall I tell the Lebanese people? More patience, more patience. The dawn is coming, and victory is coming. We will impose the peace of the brave, not capitulation, on the region. We sincerely wish success, progress, prosperity, and stability for the Lebanese. I tell Lebanon: Thank you, thank you, thank you, thank you, and thank you.

[Wardah] Thank you, Abu-'Ammar.

['Arafat] I salute all the Lebanese children, men, women, officials, my brothers in the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies, and my brother President al-Hirawi.

[Wardah] Thank you again.

## Al-Rantisi Responds to Flag Remark

*NC2108121093 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Text] There has been a reaction to Abu-'Ammar's [Yasir 'Arafat] remarks. Deportee spokesman 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Rantisi told our correspondent that the Palestinian flag has been flying above the deportees' camps in Marj al-Zuhur for a long time and is now partially torn because it has been there so long.

Al-Rantisi said the Iranian flag is not raised at the camp, although the deportees take pride in this flag.

He expressed astonishment at the fact that 'Arafat's people, as he put it, sit at a negotiating table on which the Israeli and U.S. flags are raised.

## 'Abd-al-Shafi on Peace Talks, Ties With PLO

*NC2008124993 Cairo Voice of the Arabs in Arabic 0510 GMT 20 Aug 93*

[Telephone interview with Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi, head of the delegation to the peace talks, in Gaza by correspondent Shihatah Abu-al-Majd in Cairo; date not given; from the "Dialogue from Afar" program—recorded]

[Text] [Abu-al-Majd] Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi, following the intensive meetings you held with the PLO and your contacts with the Arab brothers and the U.S. Administration, where is the peace process heading in the coming stage?

['Abd-al-Shafi] First, the importance of these meetings lies in achieving better coordination and cooperation between the negotiating delegation and the PLO leadership in Tunis. It is my feeling that progress has been made in this connection. As for the peace process, we will have to wait and see whether there is anything new in the Israeli and U.S. stands. The negotiating deadlock we have been in and are still in was caused by the Israel not complying with the terms of reference for peace, that is, with Resolution 242. We will see. As usual, we will go to the next round with open minds and hearts and see if there is anything new.

[Abu-al-Majd] You said that the meetings with the PLO leadership held in Tunis and Amman have achieved some or much progress regarding coordination between the delegation and the PLO delegation. Do we understand from this that this coordination did not exist in the

past, and how can this be avoided in the coming stage so that the same mistakes will not be made?

['Abd-al-Shafi] There was, in fact, coordination. Everything that was raised at the negotiating table followed intensive consultations between the delegation and the PLO leadership. The media has exaggerated this issue, and we believe that the present situation is a good one and is sufficient with regard to our negotiating position. The Israeli and U.S. stands are the important things that remain.

[Abu-al-Majd] Dr. 'Abd-al-Shafi, what have you, the Palestinian side, prepared for the next round of the peace negotiations?

['Abd-al-Shafi] We have not changed the stand we defined in the previous rounds, especially in the 10th round. There are basic issues that we cannot bypass. These are the issues of territorial jurisdiction and the population in all the occupied territories, including East Jerusalem. This is the important and basic stand that we cannot bypass and is in line with the terms of reference for the negotiations, that is, Resolution 242. The problem lies in Israel's insistence that it is not an occupation state, and this means that the occupied territories are disputed ones. Israel is giving itself the freedom to claim jurisdiction over lands in the occupied territories. This is the essence of the negotiating deadlock. We cannot accept this under any pretext or technique raised by Israel.

[Abu-al-Majd] But in view of this deadlock, do you believe that the next round, especially after the United States has declared its commitment to achieve progress, could achieve some progress within the context of what you have mentioned?

['Abd-al-Shafi] We cannot concede what we regard to be our fundamental right. According to Resolution 242, Israel, the occupier, has no right to benefit or gain territories as a result of occupation. This is the important factor and is linked to our right to self-determination, which we cannot concede. We joined the negotiations sincerely, seriously, and with open hearts, but we did not come to the negotiations to bargain over our basic rights. Our efforts will remain sincere and serious in order to achieve a just peace. In fact, peace cannot be established except on the basis of right and justice.

[Abu-al-Majd] Dr. 'Abd-al-Shafi, recently there was talk about establishing a Palestinian-Jordanian confederation. There was also talk about bypassing the transitional period and moving on to the final stage of a solution. What proposals will the Palestinians submit during the next round of talks?

['Abd-al-Shafi] We are proceeding in line with the letter of invitation to the Madrid conference and the rules that governed that process. We wish to reach an agreement on the transitional period. If a tendency develops to negotiate over the final stage, we will not object. We are willing to proceed along this path, which might prove easier than the transitional period. However, the two sides must agree on this. Regarding confederation, we do not oppose it in principle but it must come as a free and democratic expression of the Palestinian and Jordanian people's wishes. This means confederation has to wait until after an independent Palestinian state is established.

[Abu-al-Majd] Dr. 'Abd-al-Shafi, does this mean that the confederation issue is not currently on the agenda but what is there is a search for a solution regarding the final stage?

['Abd-al-Shafi] Yes, this is what I believe.

[Abu-al-Majd] The cordon states' foreign ministers will meet in Beirut in the next few days. What new proposals will the Palestinians submit to this meeting?

['Abd-al-Shafi] These meetings usually serve to assess the previous round of talks, the 10th in this case, and the entire course of the negotiations so far. We will then decide whether we will attend the 11th round. This is the agenda of the foreign ministers meeting. I feel that the decision will be to participate in the 11th round. We hope there will be progress. We remain optimistic.

[Abu-al-Majd] Dr. 'Abd-al-Shafi, some circles have been saying that the Palestinians are coming under certain pressures. How true is this?

['Abd-al-Shafi] Personally, I do not know. Of course there are U.S. pressures. During the 10th round the United States was trying to make us abandon our commitment to the basic issues to which I have already referred and accept the transfer of some powers in the education, health, and similar spheres. We certainly do not object to such transfers, but we cannot see them meeting our demands for jurisdiction over the land and the people in the occupied territories.

[Abu-al-Majd] A final question: How do the Palestinian negotiators and the people in the occupied territories view the Egyptian position on the peace process?

['Abd-al-Shafi] Of course we regard Egypt as the largest Arab country that bears proportionately major responsibilities in connection with pan-Arab interests. There is a long history of Egyptian backing for the Palestinian cause. We count a lot on this position.

[Abu-al-Majd] Dr. 'Abd-al-Shafi, thank you.

['Abd-al-Shafi] You are welcome.

## Qaddumi Comments on Support for Peace Process

### Views Syrian Stance

*JN2108130593 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0735 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Text] Tunis, 21 Aug (SANA)—Farouq Qaddumi, chief of the PLO Political Department, has stressed that Syria

plays a principal and central role in defending the legitimate Arab rights and interests, particularly the Palestinian cause.

In an interview with the SANA correspondent in Tunis, Qaddumi said coordination and cooperation between Syria and the PLO is a strategic matter, stressing that Syria has been, and is still showing, great interest in Arab coordination, not only with the Palestinians, but also with the other Arab parties directly involved in the peace process.

Qaddumi said the meetings of the Arab coordination committee, which will be held on the level of the foreign ministers of the Arab states directly concerned with the peace process, and which he will attend, are very important, especially since they follow the recent Israeli attacks against South Lebanon.

He pointed out that these meetings will assess the peace process and the position of the U.S. sponsor in the light of Secretary of State Warren Christopher's recent tour in the region. He emphasized that the United States' position has not progressed. Despite the United States' declaration that it will play a full-partner role in the peace talks, it is still showing a clear bias in favor of Israel, he said.

Qaddumi said he hopes that the new U.S. Administration would understand that it must play a full role in the peace talks and exercise pressure on Israel to compel it to accept the basis on which the peace process was based, the resolutions of international legitimacy, and the principle of land for peace.

Regarding the Syrian stand in the peace talks, Qaddumi said: Before World War I, Palestine was part of Syria. Those who are familiar with the Syrian Arab role know that Syrian positions always proceed from the premise of achieving a just and comprehensive solution to the Palestine question. He pointed out that Israel's occupation of the Golan Heights was a result of Syria's defense of Arab rights in Palestine.

Qaddumi asserted that Syria would not accept a separate solution with Israel, noting President Hafiz al-Asad's statements and constant assertion that Palestine is Arab territory and that the Palestinian people have the right to exercise national sovereignty on that territory.

Regarding his views on the next round of peace talks, Qaddumi said this round will be similar to previous ones because the Israeli mentality remains unchanged and because Israel is still using aggression as a means to impose its terms for the settlement.

The PLO Political Department chief held the Israeli Government responsible for the failure of the peace talks, stressing that the recent Israeli aggressive acts against south Lebanon and its continued oppressive measures against the Palestinian people would terminate once and for all the Middle East peace talks.

Qaddumi stressed that the document that the Palestinian delegation recently gave to U.S. Secretary of State Christopher in occupied Jerusalem reflects the negative impressions the Palestinian party has about the ideas mentioned in the U.S. document. He noted that the Palestinian side still adheres to the political and basic principles to achieve the just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East, which are based on international legitimacy, the land for peace formula, the achievement of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, and Israeli withdrawal from all Arab and Palestinian territories occupied in 1967, including Jerusalem.

Regarding the Palestinian delegation's participation in the next round of talks, Qaddumi stressed that the delegation has from the beginning been the PLO's representative in the peace talks. He said the decision to participate will be part of the decision the foreign ministers of the Arab states directly involved in the peace talks will make in their next meeting in Lebanon because the decision by Arab delegations to participate in the talks is primarily an Arab decision.

### Praises Egypt's Position

*NC2208103393 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0941 GMT 22 Aug 93*

[Text] Tunis, 22 Aug (MENA)—PLO Political Department Chief Faruq Qaddumi has praised Egypt's position on the Palestinian cause and its continued support for the Palestinian stand at the peace talks. He said that Egypt has pan-Arab duties that it must fulfill in its capacity as the Arab countries' big sister. In a statement to MENA today, Qaddumi stressed the need for Egypt to stand by the side of its brothers in Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, and the PLO, noting that Egypt has strategic tasks in cooperation and coordination with Arab brothers.

Qaddumi said that the meetings of the Arab cordon states foreign ministers scheduled for 27 August in Beirut are very important because they come after the recent Israeli aggression against south Lebanon. He noted that the meetings will focus on assessing the peace talks and evaluating the U.S. sponsor's position in light of U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher's latest tour of the region. He expressed hope that the new U.S. Administration will realize the need to play the role of full partner in the peace talks and put pressure on Israel to respond to the principles on which the peace process was built, the resolutions of international legitimacy, and the principle of land for peace.

## Algeria

### Malek Succeeds Abdessalam as Prime Minister

*LD2108122593 Algiers ENTV Television Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Text] The Higher State Council convened on Saturday 3 Rabi' al-Awwal 1414 AH, corresponding to 21 August 1993, under the chairmanship of Ali Kafi in the presence of Abdessalam Belaid. It was decided at the meeting to appoint Redha Malek, member of the Higher State Council as head of the government in succession to Abdessalam Belaid.

Redha Malek was charged with forming a new government.

During the meeting, the chairman of the Higher State Council expressed special salutations for Abdessalam Belaid and all the members of his government who have performed their duties courageously and unselfishly during a difficult period.

### Portfolio Handed Over

*LD2108205493 Algiers ENTV Television Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Excerpts] Following the announcement of the change of government and the appointment of Redha Malek, member of the Higher State Council, as prime minister in succession to Belaid Abdessalam, the portfolio was officially handed over at noon today at the prime minister's office. Here is a report by Rachida Hamadi:

[Begin recording] [Hamadi] New Prime Minister Redha Malek was welcomed at the entrance of the prime minister's office by outgoing Prime Minister Belaid Abdessalam at noon. Malek made a statement at the entrance of the building. He said:

[Malek] I have full appreciation for our brother and friend Belaid Abdessalam, for the efforts he made genuinely and courageously in the name of this country and in the name of progress and prosperity for this country. He made all these efforts and we thank him. [passage omitted]. As far as I am concerned, this appointment is a very heavy responsibility placed on my shoulders. The thing I want to say is that I will be carrying out my duty. As brother Abdessalam carried out his duty as a struggler, I will carry out my duty as a struggler. This is what I can say now. The circumstances are difficult, but God willing and with everyone's efforts, we will advance forward; we will take positive steps toward the future.

[Hamadi] After that the two prime ministers had a meeting for about one hour. Following these talks, the portfolio was handed over. After the meeting, the new prime minister, Mr. Redha Malek, accompanied Belaid Abdessalam and they left the building together. [end recording]

### New Prime Minister Profiled

*LD2108130093 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Report by Hassiba Kechrout]

[Text] Mr. Redha Malek is a well-known figure among intellectuals and politicians. He was born in 1939 in Batna. He attended secondary school in Constantine and obtained a university degree in French literature and philosophy at Algiers and Paris.

In 1957, he was elected to the committee that ran the General Union of Algerian Muslim Students. In the same year, he was appointed director of El-Moudjahid. In 1961, he held the post of official spokesman of the National Liberation Front at the Evian negotiations. Following independence, he was appointed ambassador to Yugoslavia from 1962 to 1964. He also held several ministerial posts such as minister of culture and information in 1977, and minister of education. Between 1980 and 1982, he participated in negotiations to free the U.S. hostages in Tehran. Between the time he spent as Algeria's ambassador to Washington and 1984, he withdrew from political life. He accepted the invitation to return to it in April of last year when he took up the posts of chairman of the National Consultative Council, member of the Higher State Council in July of the same year, and foreign minister.

### Former Prime Minister Merbah Assassinated

*LD2208082693 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 0800 GMT 22 Aug 93*

[Text] We learned this morning that Mr. Kasdi Merbah, former prime minister and leader of the MAJD movement [Algerian Movement for Justice and Development], was assassinated yesterday. In the same operation his son, his driver, his brother, and one of his guards have died.

The incident happened in front of Mr. Kasdi Merbah's house in a suburb in east Algiers. Mr. Kasdi Merbah was 55 years old and was a colonel in the People's National Army before entering politics.

### Details Reported

*LD2208085393 Paris France-Inter Radio Network in French 0800 GMT 22 Aug 93*

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] On the line live from Algiers is our correspondent Ibrahim Zitouni:

[Zitouni] Kasdi Merbah, the former prime minister, was assassinated last night at about 1930, at the Bordj El Bahri crossroads. The former head of military security [Merdah] was coming back from his beach house at Alger Plage, which he has owned since 1963. Kasdi Merbah was travelling in a Honda in the company of his brother and on of his sons. His vehicle was first stopped by a grenade, which blew up its front right tire, then the assailants raked his car with bullets. According to one of

his bodyguards, the bullet holes would indicate that Kalashnikovs were used. The three occupants of the Honda died on the spot. The second vehicle, containing his bodyguards then had its path blocked: The assailants used the same method, raking with gunfire the two bodyguards of the former prime minister. Merbah was evacuated to the Ain Naadja hospital.

### APS: Islamic Group Members Involved

*JN2208161193 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1500 GMT 22 Aug 93*

[Text] REUTER news agency has quoted ALGIER PRESSE SERVICE as saying that the gunmen who shot dead former Algerian Prime Minister Kasdi Merbah, as well as two members of his family, his driver, and one of his guards, are members of the Islamic groups.

It was announced earlier in Algiers that Kasdi Merbah was assassinated when gunmen opened fire at him near his house in Algiers, and fled away.

### Israeli-Origin Cartridges Found at Site

*LD2208195293 Algiers ENTV Television Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 22 Aug 93*

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] A security services source said that the security forces have found on the spot [of the assassinations] cartridges bearing the initials IMI, which are Israeli-made. The sources pointed out that the members of the armed group were wearing civilian clothes and carrying large bags to hide the weapons, which might be either Uzi or Scorpion [models] of Israeli origin.

### Gunman Reported Arrested

*NC2308103993 Paris AFP in English 0957 GMT 23 Aug 93*

[Text] Algiers, Aug 23 (AFP)—One of five gunmen who assassinated ex-prime minister and security police chief Kasdi Merbah has been arrested by security forces, the independent daily AL-WATAN reported Monday [23 August].

The man, who was not named, was wounded in Saturday's shootout with Merbah, who fired back at his assailants before dying, the paper said.

Merbah's son, brother, chauffeur and bodyguard were also killed when the gunmen spratorities [words indistinct] have blamed Islamic fundamentalists for the killings and vowed to pursue a "relentless fight" against what they called "terrorist barbarity."

The killing of Merbah, who was premier in 1988-89, came only hours after the government appointed a new prime minister who is expected to take a tough line on the guerrilla war being waged by Islamic militants.

### Higher State Council Issues Statement

*LD2208201793 Algiers ENTV Television Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 22 Aug 93*

[Text] The Higher State Council [HCE] has issued a statement on the horrible assassination og Kasdi Merbah. The text of the statement follows:

The obscurantist forces, which have sworn to destroy Algeria, have once again hit an eminent national figure. The cowardly assassination of Kasdi Merbah, two members of his family, and two companions—added to the assassinations of intellectuals, journalists, and men of science—is aimed at our progress in building democracy in our country. The Higher State Council [HCE] notes with indignation the savagery of these assassinations, which do not spare mother, son, brother, or neighbor, and which are considered bloody actions which are completely alien to the values of our society. Nothing can justify such actions, which are horrible crimes.

While praising the security forces, whose elements sacrifice their lives in daily remaining vigilant in order to maintain order, the HCE states that all nationals of our country are called upon to face this aggression, which aims at destabilizing the country. In the of theses crimes, the HCE reiterates its determination to fight the terrorist savagery without any leniency.

The HCE bows humbly to the soul of Kasdi Merbah, the eminent servant of the homeland, who joined the liberation struggle at an early stage and who put his intelligence, vitality, and energy at the service of the country.

The HCE expresses its deep sympathy and support for the families of the victims of this treacherous aggression.

### 'Arafat Arrives, Met by HSC Officials

*LD2108124593 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Text] Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Algeria this morning. He was welcomed at Houari Boumediene international airport by Mohamed Saidi, director of the Office of the Higher State Council [HSC], and Benyoucef Baba Ali, adviser for diplomatic affairs at the Higher State Council.

## Egypt

### Court Sentences 4 Islamic Militants to Death

*NC2108090593 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0825 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Text] Cairo, 21 Aug (MENA)—The High Military Court today sentenced to death four people, including one fugitive, convicted in the case of the al-Shawqiyun Organization.

The court also passed the following imprisonment terms: life with hard labor for two convicts; 15 years with hard labor for eight convicts, including three fugitives; 10 years with hard labor for three convicts; 10 years for one convict; five years with hard labor for three convicts; three years for one convict; and two years for two convicts. The court acquitted eight defendants.

The four people sentenced to death are: Ramadan Mustafa Muhammad Hasan, 28, holder of a diploma in commerce; 'Ali Fayid Mayhub 'Abd-al-'Al, 27, unemployed; Sayyid 'Abd-al-Raziq Badri, 20, a student at the teachers college in al-Fayyum; and fugitive Hisham Muhammad Mas'ud, 21, a painter. [passage omitted]

The military prosecution had referred the accused to the court and had called for the execution of all of them for their membership in an unlawful organization dedicated to abolishing the country's Constitution and law. They were also charged with committing four murders, attempting to kill nine other people, robbing five jewelry shops, stealing and possessing firearms, and possessing explosives without licenses in order to use them to disrupt the security and stability of the country.

### Official Reports Bombings Near Aswan 20 Aug

*NC2108140793 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1307 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Text] Aswan, 21 Aug (MENA)—Major General Sami 'Abd-al-Jawwad, assistant interior minister and Aswan's security chief, today said that late last night three unidentified assailants hurled an explosive charge at two policemen who were on duty at a traffic police checkpoint in al- Khattarah section of Abu al-Rish, just north of Aswan, and then escaped into nearby fields. The blast, 'Abd-al-Jawwad added, caused no casualties or property damage.

Unidentified assailants, 'Abd-al-Jawwad disclosed, also threw an explosive charge at an area 2.5 km away from the same checkpoint, wounding a passerby in the leg. The wounded man, a farmer, has been admitted to hospital for treatment.

Maj. Gen. 'Abd-al-Jawwad said that police forces combing the area to look for the assailants later found another explosive charge and arrested several suspects. The Aswan Prosecution Office has started investigating the attacks, the assistant minister said.

### Clash Between Police, Gunmen in Upper Egypt Reported

*NC2208181093 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1731 GMT 22 Aug 93*

[Text] Cairo, 22 Aug (MENA)—A security source has announced that a detachment of Asyut's security forces and Central Security troops carried out a large campaign this afternoon to seize the weapons in the hands of feuding families in al-Hawatikah village in Manfulat.

The source added that the raiding security forces were surprised by gunfire when they arrived at the village and were forced to respond. During the exchange, Captain Khalid Mukhtar of the Central Security Forces and two soldiers were injured and evacuated from the scene. Another Central Security conscript was martyred.

The security source added that one of the fugitive criminals was killed, and two were injured. Three others were arrested.

Following the incident, officers from the Public Security and State Security Departments, officials from the Aysut Security Directorate, and Interior Ministry investigators arrived at the scene.

The security forces still have the area surrounded and the police are continuing their efforts to seize all unlicensed weapons there.

Forensics personnel left for the scene of the clash and the Public Prosecutor's Office was notified of the incident so that it could begin investigating.

### Past 'Police Excesses' in Fighting Terrorism Noted

*NC2208153193 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 1400 GMT 22 Aug 93*

[AL-JUMHURIYAH editorial: "Confronting Terrorism Is the Responsibility of All Citizens]

[Text] The details of the bombing in al-Shaykh Rayhan Street reveals that terrorism in Egypt is an insane and mindless activity that lacks objectives and possesses no political and social program that it seeks to implement.

The choice of Major General Hasan al-Alfi as target of this sinful assault shows that the Egyptian terrorist organizations, which attempt to use religion as a cover for their acts, are merely groups of murderers, criminals, and psychopaths whose hearts are full of hate for all Egyptians.

When he was governor of Suhaj and later Asyut and since he assumed the interior minister's post, Hasan al-Alfi has consistently shown that he seeks to stop the bloodshed and make those misguided groups return to their senses. He never resorted to improper use of violence and was never involved in torturing suspects or taking revenge on innocent people by way of indiscriminate strikes, as sometimes happened in the past.

It was expected that the terrorist leaders would give the man a chance to implement his policy of calming things down, preventing any police excesses against the citizens, and emphasizing that security measures should be directed only at the individuals involved in criminal acts, not their relatives and friends.

What occurred in al-Shaykh Rayhan Street and what happened before in Shubra, the al-Tahrir bus station, the al-Jizah tunnel, and Wadi al-Nil Cafe is a warning sign to every Egyptian citizen to act and confront all terrorist elements firmly and relentlessly in order to stop the indiscriminate mass murder of Egyptians without known objectives or reasons other than the terrorist leaders' insanity, hate, and ignorance. These groups have no connection with Islam or any religion whatever.

## Details on Attempt To Murder Interior Minister

### Police Uncover Hideout

*NC2108161393 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 1400 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Text] A security source has disclosed that teams from the State Security Investigations Department [SSID], the General Security Department, and other police services are cooperating to arrest the perpetrators of last Wednesday's [18 August] botched attempt to assassinate the interior minister. These teams, he added, succeeded in locating a hideout rented by the terrorists in the name of Diya' al-Din Mahmud Hafiz Zaki 'Abd-al-Qadir, a terrorist whose body was blown apart by the blast targeting the interior minister. The terrorists used this hideout to manufacture bombs for use in their terrorist operations.

Following intensive investigations by the SSID early today, a force of the SSID and the Criminal Investigation Department, the Central Security Department, and other police organs, having obtained the necessary warrants, raided the hideout, situated at al-Manfa farm, near Kafr al-Jabal in al-Haram section of Cairo. As police forces surrounded the hideout, cutting off the surrounding streets, specialists defused a booby-trapped door before entering the hideout. Using dogs trained to sniff out explosives, police officers found a number of bombs and explosives in the hideout.

Investigation teams at the Interior Ministry are currently following several lines of inquiry expected to lead to the arrest of all those who participated in planning and executing the attempt on the life of the interior minister, the source said.

### Body of Second 'Terrorist' Identified

*NC2108070193 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2240 GMT 20 Aug 93*

[Text] Cairo, 20 Aug (MENA)—The Egyptian security organs today succeeded in identifying the body of the second terrorist who was killed during the failed assassination attempt on Interior Minister Hasan al-Alfi on Wednesday [18 August]. Parts of the terrorist's body were found stuck to the motorcycle that was used in the blast.

The security organs have proven that the body, which was torn to pieces during the incident, is that of terrorist Diya'-al-Din Mahmud Hafiz Zaki, a student in high school who lives in the area of Bulaq al-Dakrur in al-Jizah Governorate. The security organs used state-of-the-art scientific methods to identify the fingerprints and compare them with those registered in the archives of the State Security Investigations.

A statement issued by the Ministry of Interior tonight noted that the terrorist was identified through some distinguishing marks on his body.

The statement said that the terrorist's father, sister, and aunt identified the body from the scars of an operation on his left hand performed 25 days earlier. They also identified his outward-jutting top front teeth and a bump on the amputated right foot, which was found at the scene of the incident.

The Interior Ministry's statement noted that the Investigation Department, which monitored the activities and movements of the dead terrorists, affirmed that he carried a passport that had expired at the end of 1990. It is a passport for student travel. He used it to travel to Jordan on 5 June 1990 and return to Egypt on 22 July of the same year.

The security organs' investigations revealed that the terrorist, born on 3 March 1972, had gone to his father's home two days before he carried out the attack and had taken some of his brothers' clothes—a pair of shoes, a pair of pants, and a T-shirt. These were the clothes he was wearing during the incident and they were found at the scene.

The statement pointed out that information acquired by the investigation organs affirmed that the dead terrorist had been lured into the dark activities of the al-Jihad organization through his friendship with Nazih Nushi, the first terrorist who was killed in the incident, right after his return to Egypt from Jordan in 1990.

The body of terrorist Diya'-al-Din Mahmud Hafiz was blown to many pieces, which were gathered from the scene of the incident and transported to the Zaynhum morgue. It became clear that this body was the center of the explosion. Some parts of the motorcycle that was used in the attack were found completely stuck to parts of the body. There was some speculation that these parts belonged to the body of fugitive terrorist Tariq 'Abd-al-Nabi al-Fahl, a member of the Vanguards of Conquest organization, but the investigation organs later discovered the true identity of the body.

The Interior Ministry statement noted that the Higher State Security Prosecution has been told to proceed with the investigations and that groups from the State Security Investigations, the Public Security Department, and

various police units are continuing their efforts to uncover the dimensions of this sinful incident and track down every person who collaborated with the suspects in preparing for this attack.

## Interior Minister Undergoes 'Successful' Surgery

### Condition 'Very Satisfactory'

*NC2208054393 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 1730 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Text] A responsible source at the Interior Ministry today disclosed that Interior Minister Hasan al-Alfi underwent successful surgery on his right arm immediately after his arrival in Switzerland yesterday. The source added that the minister's condition is very satisfactory and that he is due to return to Egypt within the next few days.

### Praises Citizens, Police

*NC2208141993 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 1150 GMT 22 Aug 93*

[Interview with Interior Minister Hasan al-Alfi by correspondent Jamil 'Atiyah Ibrahim in Switzerland on 22 August; from "The World on the Air" program—recorded]

[Text] [Al-Alfi] Thank God, I am in very good condition. I have had surgery on my right arm. Everything is all right. This is Providence. God protects all people despite the violent, unscrupulous terrorism of some people. God wished to show the whole world the true nature of these criminals. He visited the worst possible vengeance on them at the very moment of their attack. They died immediately. They wanted to kill others but died themselves. This is Providence. These people are evil, criminal terrorists. What astonishes me is that some people call them fundamentalists or Islamists. It is a very wrong description. Islam means mercy, amity, peace, and love. It teaches us that killing one person is like killing all humanity and saving one is like saving all.

[Ibrahim] Minister Hasan al-Alfi, terrorist schemes target Egypt because of its political importance in the Middle East, Africa, and internationally. These terrorist acts attempt to undermine the regional stability and security that Egypt is seeking to maintain.

[Al-Alfi] It is clear that Egypt is being targeted because of its civilized character. Its civilization goes back thousands of years. It is the cradle of civilization that has enriched all nations. Some parties attack it to prevent it from enjoying stability, security, economic growth, industrial production, and a cultured existence. Those who profess religion, piety, or fundamentalism are actually mere agents of terrorism who seek to ruin Egyptian security. God willing, Egypt will remain secure forever. We will confront all such acts very firmly. The public is very enlightened now. Everyone now knows the objectives of this terrorism and all will stand as one man to destroy the terrorists.

[Ibrahim] Mr. Minister, recent events demonstrated that unarmed Egyptian citizens are resisting and rejecting this terrorism. They are cooperating with the police in arresting these criminal terrorists. Despite the well-known problems, the Egyptian people have high hopes of a better future and are working hard to build a bright future for their children and grandchildren. Would you like to address a message to those Egyptians who are joining forces with the police to resist terrorism?

[Al-Alfi] First of all, I express my profound thanks, appreciation, and love for the great Egyptian people. I am willing to sacrifice myself for the Egyptians. All are convinced that they are in danger from these criminal, butchering terrorists and will confront them forcefully. This has already happened. Recently many people offered information to the authorities and helped uncover terrorist operations. The people's response has recently been so splendid that it made me devote myself wholeheartedly to the country's service. I am willing to die for Egypt.

[Ibrahim] Mr. Minister, the police bear the brunt of the confrontation with the terrorists. Would you like to address a message to your sons, the police?

[Al-Alfi] I tell my sons, the policemen, to rest assured that their work is a glorious, noble vocation. Two eyes will not perish in the fire: One that weeps for fear of God and one that spends the night doing sentry duty for the sake of God. [Prophet's saying] Standing guard over the country is a most noble vocation. I also wish to tell them: There is no need to fear anyone when Providence is there. I believe what happened is proof of this. Whenever one human being wishes to kill another, God will protect the victim, and the attacker will perish as long as his intentions are evil and he is unscrupulous, immoral, and unreligious.

[Ibrahim] Mr. Minister, what do the latest medical tests and the specialists say about your case? We wish to know some details about your health. Has a date been set for your discharge and return to dear Egypt or is it too early to tell?

[Al-Alfi] Thank God everything is proceeding well. All the tests are good. Thanks be to God. May He be praised.

[Ibrahim] Thank you, Mr. Minister. We wish you a rapid recovery and a prompt return to beloved Egypt.

[Al-Alfi] Thank you. Please convey my greetings to all Egyptians, the leaders, the public, and the government. I hope to return as soon as possible in order to resume my duties devotedly for the sake of the homeland.

### Cairo Pressing Islamabad To Oust Wanted Islamists

*NC2108185793 Paris AFP in English 1704 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Text] Cairo, Aug 21 (AFP)—Egypt is pressing Pakistan for the extradition or expulsion of Egyptian Islamic militants suspected of masterminding bloody guerrilla attacks here, officials said Saturday [21 August].

A "senior" Egyptian government figure on Saturday asked the Pakistani authorities to restart negotiations between the two countries aimed at speeding the extradition of the militants, who are former mojahedin fighters in Afghanistan, the officials said.

Among the group, which is based in Peshawar, near the Afghan border, is Ayman al-Zawahiri, the man believed by Egyptian police to be the brains behind Wednesday's failed assassination attempt on Interior Minister Hasan al-Alfi, and a founder of the Tala'i al-Fatah, a revolutionary Islamic militant group.

Police have blamed Tala'i al-Fatah for Wednesday's attack and identified the two attackers, who blew themselves up in the process, as members of the illegal organisation.

Tala'i al-Fatah is an offshoot of al-Jihad, the group that assassinated President Anwar al-Sadat in 1981.

Cairo contacted Islamabad earlier this year with an aim to getting the militants thrown out or sent home, where they would face trial and stiff penalties. Fifteen Islamic militants have been hanged this year in Egypt for political crimes.

Many of the Egyptians currently in Pakistan went to Afghanistan to fight with the Islamic Mojahedin against the Soviet occupying forces, who invaded the country in 1979 and withdrew ten years later.

On August 11, the Afghan ambassador in Egypt said his country could not extradite some 300 Egyptian militants still in Afghanistan since there was no extradition treaty between the two countries.

### UN Chief Phones Mubarak on Talks in Libya

*NC2008211893 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2047 GMT 20 Aug 93*

[Text] Cairo, 20 Aug (MENA)—The newspaper AL-AHRAM reports that UN Secretary General Dr. Butrus Butrus-Ghali telephoned President Muhammad Husni Mubarak after his three-day discussions on how to end the Libyan-Western crisis with Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

The newspaper, which will be published tomorrow, said that Dr. Butrus-Ghali will hold urgent contacts with Libyan officials to discuss implementing the Security Council resolution on handing over the two Libyan suspects to the judiciary to be tried on the charge of blowing up the French and American passenger airliners.

The president returned to Cairo yesterday after a three-day visit to the Libyan Jamahiriyah.

Ambassador Ahmad al-Khudayri, Libya's representative to the United Nations, left Tripoli for New York after President Mubarak's visit. He bears Col. al-Qadhdhafi's response to a letter from the UN secretary general urging the Libyan leadership to hand over the Libyan suspects.

### Kuwaiti Amir Arrives in Alexandria for Talks 21 Aug

*NC2108123893 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0938 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Text] Alexandria, 21 Aug (MENA)—Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, amir of Kuwait, and his delegation arrived in Alexandria this morning on a three-day official visit to Egypt at the invitation of President Muhammad Husni Mubarak.

President Mubarak led those who received Shaykh Jabir, and the guest was accorded an official reception.

The Egyptian and Kuwaiti national anthems were played and the two leaders reviewed the honor guard.

[Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic at 1000 GMT on 21 August adds: "Official talks between President Husni Mubarak and His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad Jabir al-Sabah, amir of Kuwait, began as soon as the latter arrived in Alexandria this morning."]

### Discusses Regional Issues With Mubarak

*NC2108183593 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1214 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Text] Alexandria, 21 Aug (MENA)—President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and Kuwaiti Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Sabah held a one-hour session of private talks in Ra's al-Tin Palace in Alexandria this afternoon.

Following the talks, Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif that Mubarak and Jabir do not adhere to a certain agenda when they meet. The two leaders, he pointed out, discuss matters frankly and exchange views on all issues of concern to their countries.

Minister al-Sharif said that in today's meeting, Mubarak and Jabir exchanged views on a number of regional, international, and Arab issues, particularly the Middle East crisis. The two leaders, al-Sharif added, discussed ways of unifying Arab efforts and enhancing Arab interests. Al-Sharif pointed out that Mubarak and Jabir will continue their talks tonight.

For his part, Kuwaiti Information Minister Shaykh Sa'ud Nasir al- Sabah said that the official visit to sisterly Egypt by the Kuwaiti amir is taking place at the kind invitation of President Mubarak.

The Kuwaiti information minister said that he was pleased to see the two Arab brother leaders hold these talks. He pointed out to the bonds of cordiality, friendship, amity, and cooperation linking the two countries and peoples.

Minister al-Sabah said that President Mubarak and Shaykh Jabir held a fraternal session of talks at noon today, during which they exchanged views on matters of concern to both the brotherly countries and peoples.

### Second Session of Talks Held

*NC2108183993 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1644 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Text] Alexandria, 21 Aug (MENA)—President Mubarak and His Highness Kuwaiti Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah resumed their talks in Ra's al-Tin Palace in Alexandria tonight. The two leaders continue to review the topics they discussed at an earlier session they held at noon today.

### Amir Departs for Damascus 23 Aug

*NC2308090893 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 0800 GMT 23 Aug 93*

[Text] Kuwaiti Amir His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah and the delegation accompanying him left Alexandria for Damascus before noon today, following a three-day visit to Alexandria.

President Husni Mubarak was at the head of the farewell committee at the Burj al-'Arab base, where his highness was accorded an official farewell ceremony.

### Syrian Parliamentary Speaker Arrives in Cairo

*NC2008183493 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1715 GMT 20 Aug 93*

[Excerpt] Cairo, 20 Aug (MENA)—'Abd-al-Qadir Qaddurah, Syrian People's Assembly speaker and chairman of the Arab Parliamentary Union, arrived in Cairo this evening at the head of a parliamentary delegation consisting of six chairmen of Syrian People's Assembly committees.

In an arrival statement, Qaddurah said he is visiting Egypt because it is the heart of Arabism and has its importance and role in numerous important issues. He said he will discuss with People's Assembly Speaker Dr. Fathi Surur a number of issues, particularly those related to the 90th conference of the International Parliamentary Union, which is due to be held in Australia next month. He will also discuss ways to restore Arab solidarity and the role Arab parliaments can play to achieve such solidarity. [passage omitted]

### Meets Counterpart, Denounces Terror

*NC2208055393 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1310 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Text] Cairo, 21 Aug (MENA)—'Abd-al-Qadir Qaddurah, Syrian People's Assembly speaker and chairman of the Arab Parliamentary Union, today denounced all acts of terror. Islam, he said, disavows terror and fanaticism because it is a religion of civilization, love, and generosity.

Speaking after a meeting with Egypt's People's Assembly Speaker Dr. Fathi Surur, Qaddurah revealed that Arab parliamentary delegations will hold a coordination meeting on 12 September in Australia, on the sidelines of the International Parliamentary Union conference, to discuss ways to restore Arab solidarity.

Surur, for his part, pointed out that a meeting will be held in Egypt in the first half of next year to discuss water in the Arab region and the Arab role in the new world order.

During their meeting today, Surur and Qaddurah discussed ways of consolidating Arab solidarity, mending the rift, clearing the Arab atmosphere, and cementing cooperation between the Syrian and Egyptian People's Assemblies and the Arab Parliamentary Union.

### Received by Mubarak

*NC2308090493 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0830 GMT 23 Aug 93*

[Text] Alexandria, 23 Aug (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak this morning received Syrian People's Assembly Speaker 'Abd-al-Qadir Qaddurah and the delegation accompanying him at the al-Muntazah Palace.

The meeting was attended by Egyptian People's Assembly Speaker Dr. Fathi Surur and Dr. Muhammad 'Abdallah, chairman of the Assembly's Foreign Relations Committee.

The Syrian parliament speaker arrived in Cairo on Friday [20 August] on a visit that will last several days.

### UAE President Begins Official Visit 22 Aug

*NC2208172993 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1643 GMT 22 Aug 93*

[Excerpts] Burj al-'Arab, 22 Aug (MENA)—United Arab Emirates [UAE] President Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan arrived at Burj al-'Arab Air Base this evening for a several-day visit to Egypt at the invitation of President Husni Mubarak. [passage omitted]

The two Arab leaders Mubarak and Zayid will hold important talks and exchange views about current international and regional issues of concern to the two countries, notably the Middle East issue, the current regional peace efforts, ways of maintaining peace and

security in the Middle East, and the deteriorating situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina and Somalia. [passage omitted]

### Holds Talks With Mubarak

*NC2208194193 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1925 GMT 22 Aug 93*

[Text] Alexandria, 22 Aug (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak and His Highness United Arab Emirates President Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan held a round of talks tonight at al-Muntazah Palace in Alexandria, where Shaykh Zayid is staying.

Presidential sources said that the two Arab leaders discussed a number of issues of concern to their two countries, foremost of which were developments in the Middle East peace process, the obstacles facing this process, and the situation in the Gulf region. The sources added that leaders Mubarak and Zayid also discussed a number of international issues, particularly those that affect the Arab and Islamic world's issues. They noted that the two presidents' talks were held in an atmosphere of full understanding and mutual cordiality.

### Further Talks Held

*NC2308131193 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1206 GMT 23 Aug 93*

[Excerpts] Alexandria, 23 Aug (MENA)—Muhammad 'Abd-al-Mun'im, head of the President's Press Office, said that President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and United Arab Emirates [UAE] President Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan held two hours of talks today. The two leaders discussed aspects of the momentous issues facing the Arabs, the snags that temporarily block their course, and the ways to enhance development and stability in the region. The two leaders also discussed the peace process and the obstacles facing it, the situation in the Gulf and its implications for Arab security, and terrorism. [passage omitted]

'Abd-al-Mun'im pointed out that the two presidents will resume their talks at al-Muntazah Palace in Alexandria tonight.

## U.S. Dialogue With Opposition Groups Questioned

*NC2008180093 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 11 Aug 93 p 9*

[Article by Salah-al-Din Hafiz: "The United States and the Dialogue With the Opposition Parties"]

[Text] It has become well-known in daily political life nowadays that there are hidden hands freely roaming inside Egypt in a way that is raising doubts and suspicions. It has become well-known—though not documented—that the United States is holding constant and regular secret dialogues with certain Egyptian opposition parties. But we do not know who started the move toward the other and who is panting after whom. The government is regarding this as "a covert game" that might reach the extent of treason by one party and plotting by the other.

How did this happen? And why now?

First, we are not trying to create a crisis in Egyptian-U.S. relations, as some people believe. We are not trying to incite the Egyptians and Arabs against the Americans as the "Americanized" ones are accusing us of, an accusation that even the Americans have not leveled! But we are trying here to explore the reasons for the surreptitious differences between us and "friends" whom we respect as much as we maintain for ourselves the right to differ with them over what we believe to be against our national interest. For us, the homeland comes before and above anything else, even if it is our friend the United States that we hope will help us, as we are helping ourselves, in building strong, balanced, and independent relations that preserve the rights of each side, safeguard their principles, and protect their interests. For us, friendship does not mean subservience, as we have repeatedly said here. Defense of our independent decisionmaking should not necessarily be translated into constant hostility for the United States or anyone else.

I liked an expression voiced during a meeting with William Marshall and Al From, two U.S. experts close to President Bill Clinton who recently visited Cairo, when they admitted that there are clouds in Egyptian-U.S. relations rather than a chronic crisis resulting from differences in views on a number of issues, starting with the way U.S. aid to Egypt is given and ending with Egypt's role in the peace talks and necessarily passing through the manner of dealing with terrorism, armed violence, respect for human rights, and sound democratic development.

President Clinton's administration has reassessed Egyptian-U.S. ties. It believes that there is a noticeable measure of democracy in Egypt represented by party pluralism—14 parties—and also by freedom of expression, but that this is not enough to propel the democratic development toward its wider horizons. It also believes that the Egyptian Government has succeeded to a large extent in implementing the economic reform program in accordance with the IMF and the World Bank specifications, but that alone is not enough to resolve the existing economic and social crisis.

The U.S. Administration therefore believes that there are other "political forces" in the Egyptian street with which it should have a dialogue and be acquainted so that it will not be surprised by dramatic developments that threaten its national interests. A superpower like the United States cannot ignore the interactions taking place in other countries, particularly in friendly and allied ones. It is on this basis that reports are spread to the effect that the United States has held—covertly and overtly—dialogues with many political parties and sides in Egypt, ranging from the Wafd party to the dissolved Muslim Brotherhood and to the secret dialogue with

extremist Islamic organizations, as U.S. newspapers have repeatedly reported despite the official U.S. denial.

We tend to believe that the dominating factor in this dialogue is the Iranian complex, dating to when the United States was taken aback by the Khomeyni revolution in Iran against its ally Shah Reza Pahlavi in 1978-79. This revolution complicated relations and continues to threaten interests to this day.

On the other side, the Egyptian opposition parties see in this dialogue with the United States—if it has really been held—a way to escape the state of stagnation they are suffering from. They believe that the ruling National Democratic Party is monopolizing power, that it is not allowing the transfer of authority in accordance with the rules of democracy, that its government is exerting strong pressures on them so that they cannot exercise political action in complete freedom, and that the opportunity has now come their way from the sole superpower, which is extending its hand to make contact, be acquainted, and talk, so why should they reject it!

The third party's [Egyptian Government] official circles view all reports and rumors about these contacts with considerable suspicion. The government and the ruling National Democratic Party [NDP] believe that a foreign government, even if it is a friend, does not have the right to play inside their own court and deal with opposition forces—both licensed parties and groups and organizations accused of terrorism and armed violence—in a manner that can be interpreted as treason by one side and conspiracy by the other. One side is seeking foreign backing to seize power and the other side is searching among the internal ranks for an alternative to the government. Hence the crisis and the numerous clouds darkening official Egyptian-U.S. relations.

Proceeding from a stringent and unflagging defense of independent national decisionmaking, we maintain that the two sides conducting the dialogue—the United States and the Egyptian opposition—have placed themselves in a difficult spot, indeed in a really historic predicament where national action is concerned. Despite our public opposition to the conduct of the ruling NDP and our strong criticism of some government policies, we do not believe that political opportunism should end in the trench of conspiracy against the state with the help of foreign powers, even if they are "friendly" powers. Furthermore, friendly foreign powers must not fall into the sin of playing behind the curtains on the domestic scene.

It would perhaps be useful to recall a similar past experience. Some Egyptian liberal parties, prior to the 1952 revolution, fell into the trap of cooperating with the British occupiers under the pretext of using their assistance against the monarch's tyranny. Al-Dubarah Palace, seat of the British High Commissioner, turned into a Kaaba for those parties' leaders. They vied with each other to get there first and request power and ministerial appointments. The palace would grant or deny, designate and dismiss prime ministers as if it owned the country although it was actually the symbol of the occupier. Although the occupier and its symbols are now long gone, a curse and historical condemnation continue to beset all those who made the pilgrimage to al-Dubarah Palace.

For its part, the United States attempted this same game in Latin America for several decades, conducting dialogues, making contacts, and financing and arming political parties and forces in several countries with the hope of establishing ruling regimes whose loyalty it could guarantee 100 percent and with whom it could deal in a manner that favored U.S. interests. The United States did this under the pretext of promoting democracy. Some attempts succeeded for a while; others immediately failed and produced massive popular hostility toward the United States, rejecting its hegemony and refusing to be subservient to it. U.S. policy suffered setbacks, U.S. interests were threatened, and the "clever ones" came back empty-handed.

This is our advice to the opposition forces seeking foreign backing by dialogue—if you can call it that. No matter how great the backing is, it will not help achieve national objectives. What achieves national objectives is more vigorous political action at home and determination to bring about sound and peaceful democratic development. This is better than casting on oneself the suspicion of using the support of a foreign party against a national one.

Our advice to U.S. policy planners is this: Friendship does not mean penetration. Democratic slogans should not take the form of intervention in the affairs of independent, sovereign states, even if this is done through friendship. Friendship has conditions, rules, controls, and, yes indeed, morals.

## Libya

### Deported Hamas Members Stranded at Egypt Border

*JN2108145393 Amman AL-BILAD in Arabic 18 Aug 93 p 1*

[Text] Upon the personal instructions of Libyan President al-Qadhdhafi, the forces of mother Libya have recently expelled 17 members of the Hamas movement, who carried out suicide operations against the Israeli occupation Army in the Gaza Strip. They sought refuge in Libya, via Cairo, because they were pursued by the occupation forces.

Those members have been stranded for days at a checkpoint on the Egyptian-Libyan border, suffering from an unprecedented state of exhaustion and frustration.

On 13 August, the Hamas men staged a hunger strike after the Egyptians failed to persuade Libyan authorities to allow them to stay in Libya. A Libyan Government representative wondered why Egypt would not allow the Hamas members to stay on its own territory, and why it expelled them to Libya in the first place!

Muhammad Nazzal, Hamas spokesman in Amman, said: The Libyan Government's action is unwarranted. There is no reason why the Libyan Government should expel Palestinians from its territory, especially since Libya has always called for Arab unity. Nazzal said he had sent a strongly-worded memorandum to Libyan President Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi about this.

For his part, al-Qadhdhafi still insists on deporting the 17 members, in line with a "goodwill program" he initiated with America and its ally, Israel, in a bid to restore Libyan-U.S. ties to what they were before the Lockerbie incident, which resulted in sanctions against Libya that the United States is threatening to tighten in the future.

### Al-Qadhdhafi: No Libyan Role in Lockerbie Incident

*LD2208194593 London PRESS ASSOCIATION in English 1924 GMT 22 Aug 93*

[By Joe Quinn, PRESS ASSOCIATION]

[Text] Libyan leader Colonel al-Qadhdhafi today said UN sanctions over the Lockerbie bombing led to an airliner crashing last December in his country with the loss of 157 lives.

Col al-Qadhdhafi, in an interview with Scottish Television, said sanctions had prevented Arab airlines from getting spare parts and had stopped technicians from travelling to Libya to check planes for safety.

"That is why the plane came down on a flight between Benghazi and Tripoli", he told the Scottish TV crew.

In the interview, recorded last week and to be shown tonight on Scottish Reporters, Col al-Qadhdhafi repeated that Libya had nothing to do with the Lockerbie bombing, in which 270 people died on December 21, 1988.

Libya had been accused for "political reasons", and sanctions would "never" force his country to send for trial in Britain or the US the two Libyans for whom arrest warrants have been issued.

But restoring diplomatic links between Libya and the West could persuade them to surrender voluntarily for trial, he said.

"We have been urging them to go and we want them to do that in order for American and Britain to get exposed, but they're very frightened because they say that these who have unjustly accused us could unjustly convict us.

"When these two people find that their country has now established diplomatic relations with these countries, this would give them more confidence to go."

But in the interview, conducted through an interpreter and lasting nearly 90 minutes, the Libyan leader appeared at pains to show a conciliatory tone to the British and US governments.

He spoke of the courage of "our friend" President Clinton, and there were "big possibilities" for cooperation between Libya and the US.

He also spoke approvingly of John Major, whom he said was not as aggressive as Lady Thatcher because he did not have her woman's "inferiority complex".

Col al-Qadhdhafi added: "We have found out that he is a good man. I saw him also on the bus, shaking hands with the people and I like that kind of behaviour, when you are close to the ordinary people."

Referring to Scotland, he said Libya viewed that country as "being colonised by the English", adding: "We are looking forward to the day when Scotland becomes independent."

### Colonel Cancels al-Qadhdhafi Military Decision

*NC2008105193 Beirut AL-SHIRA' in Arabic 16 Aug 93 pp 27-30*

[Unattributed "exclusive" report datelined Tripoli: "Abu-Bakr Yunus Saves al-Fatih"]

[Text] After 24 years of loyalty, blind obedience, and execution of orders without argument, Colonel Abu-Bakr Yunus canceled a decision made by Col. Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, once chairman of the Revolution Command Council [RCC], of which Abu-Bakr Yunus himself was a member.

Al-Qadhdhafi's decision was to retire 2,500 Libyan officers. The rejection of this decision was not direct. It came when the officers went to receive their emoluments

but found that there were not enough funds. Abu-Bakr Yunus ordered that they be reinstated in the Armed Forces on his own responsibility.

What has happened to prompt the brigadier general, who the colonel had demoted to his own rank, to make such a decision?

Abu-Bakr Yunus is a good man who we have described as the most loyal and obedient among al-Qadhdhafi's colleagues. He once complained of al-Qadhdhafi's ill treatment and deliberate disregard for him and for his two other colleagues, (al-Khuwaylidi al-Hamidi and Mustafa al-Kharrubi), when former Algerian President Ahmed Ben Bella visited Libya following his release in Algeria by former Algerian President Chedli Bendjedid.

Abu-Bakr Yunus asked Ben Bella to convince al-Qadhdhafi to let him [Yunus] give up his duties and go home, and Yunus promised to stay put and not make any objections or take any actions. He added that if al-Qadhdhafi insisted on retaining him and his two colleagues, he requested that they be given real roles commensurate with their tasks in the Armed Forces and security.

Abu-Bakr Yunus accepted his resulting demotion without any objection. He accepted the stripping of the Armed Forces' authority in favor of security groups that Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi had set up from certain tribes in specific areas to ensure the loyalty of those carrying arms at the expense of the Armed Forces and the regular Army.

Abu-Bakr Yunus remained silent when the Armed Forces' budget was canceled, except for the salaries that were also reduced in favor of the security groups.

Abu-Bakr Yunus could not fight the growth of the revolutionary, popular, and personal security groups working for Mu'ammar al- Qadhdhafi and 'Abd-al-Salam Jallud at the expense of the Libyan Arab Army.

Abu-Bakr was deprived of the authority to have any ties with national or pan-Arab forces. His authority was limited to hosting anyone he wanted at dinner in his modest house.

Abu-Bakr Yunus does not leave his military headquarters except to go home. He is asked to visit here or there barely once every two years. He salutes his colleague, who refuses to let anyone call him president or official and contents himself with the appellation of revolution leader, thinker, ideologue, propagator, and messenger. Abu-Bakr Yunus has made this grave decision that cancels one made by his leader, his president. Why and how?

It all started when Col. al-Qadhdhafi, with the help of the Zionist agent Ya'aqov Nimrodi and the international broker Adnan Khashuggi, arranged for some Libyans—mostly security personnel—to visit Israel. The arrangement was conducted through Da'd (a woman of Lebanese extraction) working as the office director of 'Abdallah al-Sinusi, one of al-Qadhdhafi's security officials.

All the facts show that Col. al-Qadhdhafi imagined that the visit, which was an appeasement of the Zionist enemy, would help him normalize relations with the United States so the blockade on his regime would be lifted. This was the straw that broke the camel's back as far as relations between al-Qadhdhafi and his colleagues were concerned. Those colleagues previously backed al-Qadhdhafi, despite some dangerous deviations in the course of the revolution that they collectively carried out on 1 September 1969. No pessimist would have imagined that this revolution would move from its position at the heart of pan-Arabism to a position from which it stabbed the heart of the Arab nation by seeking rapprochement with the Zionist enemy. No one imagined it would ever abandon 'Abd-al- Nasir's path and follow al-Sadat's.

According to AL-SHIRA's sources, the remaining RCC members strongly opposed the Israel visit, describing it as national and pan-Arab treason about which they could not remain silent. Al- Qadhdhafi did not meet any of these members after the visit except Jallud. As usual, he had not consulted them about his plans, but this time he took their position into account because he knew their staunch opposition to any contact with the Zionist enemy. They would not accept such contact at any price, even the continued existence of the regime with al-Qadhdhafi at its head.

Major 'Abd-al-Salam Jallud remains an exception because he, reportedly Libya's number-two man, is the only one among the powerless RCC members who still possesses some freedom of movement. This is because he belongs to the al-Maqarihah clan, which is stronger than Col. al-Qadhdhafi's al-Qadhdhadhifah clan. Al-Qadhdhafi's is the smallest of seven clans in the Sayf al-Nasr tribe.

Jallud has succeeded in filling the Libyan security forces with a large number of his clansmen. He did the same with the revolutionary committees, which the regime originally formed as a counterforce to the Armed Forces. The powerless Armed Forces were nominally designated the domain of the three remaining RCC members: Col. Abu-Bakr Yunus, Col. Mustafa al-Kharrubi, and Major al-Kuwaylidi al-Humaydi.

What did Jallud do? Following the Libyan pilgrims' visit to Israel, he requested a meeting with the colonel in the latter's current stronghold, and by now almost permanent headquarters, in Surt where his clan and security people are found.

Jallud went to al-Qadhdhafi, who did not know exactly what his colleague wanted. He felt, however, that Jallud was against the visit to Israel and that he blamed him for it. Jallud asked him to stop all the visit's repercussions,

to refer all those who arranged it and took part in it to tribunals, and to issue an official statement reaffirming Libya's firm stance on the Arab- Zionist conflict.

This was not Jallud's only demand in his direct talk with al-Qadhdhafi. The Libyan president was surprised when the person he took as his deputy approached him with another request that made him turn pale. That request was to stop treating Surt as a privileged Libyan area by publicizing the large budget the colonel allocated to his own area, while other Libyan areas were living with miserable social conditions, deteriorating services, economic deficiency, and negligence by the administration, particularly after the blockade.

The colonel's face went white. He knew that Jallud had nothing to do with figures and that someone had prepared this accurate information for him, collecting it from the various Libyan institutions that al-Qadhdhafi thought were on his side because of the interests linking them.

Al-Qadhdhafi promised Jallud nothing. But he tried in vain to acquit himself of the visit to Jerusalem. He tried to organize a march to oppose it. However, his efforts to do that failed because the march was clearly theatrical. But he could not hide the facts about granting privileges to Surt because he had moved to it the Libyan state—or what remained of it—at the expense of other areas. He surrounded the area with his men, distributing them among the security agencies and the committees.

Returning to his home, Jallud discovered that all means of communication between him and al-Qadhdhafi and major state figures had been cut, leaving only ordinary telephones. Although guards around his home were neither withdrawn nor reinforced, he was prevented from meeting officials in the ministries. This did not stop him from trying to meet with these officials in their ministries, his home, or their homes. Foremost among those officials was Ibrahim Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi; 'Abd-al-Majid al- Qa'ud, who was being accused by al-Qadhdhafi of supplying Jallud with administrative information; Abu-Zayd 'Umar Durdah, and others.

Colonel al-Kharrubi and Major al-Khuwaylidi objected to the visit in conversations with all those who asked them about it. They tried to no avail to convey this objection to al-Qadhdhafi. They sent him a request to make an official statement in the RCC's name disowning this unpatriotic act. They received no answer. All they could do was keep silent or voice their principled objection to whomever they saw.

Colonel Abu-Bakr Yunus expressed the stand we cited early in the article; a practical action unfamiliar to those who are close to the leader and higher than him in rank in all the departments, as well as to al-Qadhdhafi, who withdrew all his military and financial powers in the Army.

Apart from his patriotic and pan-Arab stance that rejected al-Qadhdhafi's conduct and policy, Col. Yunus's action had another aspect: The feeling in all Libya that al-Qadhdhafi should step down and leave the country forever. His departure has become a popular, Arab, and international demand. Col. al-Qadhdhafi himself is aware of the unrescindable decision to get rid of him.

Since the blockade was imposed on Libya, al-Qadhdhafi has been trying to lift it at any price, starting with bribes through the visit to the Zionist entity in Jerusalem. He was hoping to win America's favor. Blocking both ears, Washington ignored all al- Qadhdhafi's appeals for help, messages, and concessions, particularly since investigations—and al-Qadhdhafi's insinuations—had made it clear that Libya was solely responsible for blowing up the Pan-American plane over Lockerbie and the French plane over Africa.

Al-Qadhdhafi praised Bush's manliness and Baker's personality and wagered on Clinton's administration. He expressed willingness to pay whatever was necessary, even billions, to compensate the families of the two planes' victims; he tried to buy the French judges and offered Yasir 'Arafat millions to arrange such a deal; he expressed willingness to mortgage Libya's oil to the United States; and he promised Husni Mubarak to bind himself with whatever Washington wants if it did not reveal his and his associates' role in the two operations.

He left no door unopened to find a way out of the two impasses. But all that was in vain.

The decision was clear: To get rid of Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi himself. At first he thought the matter was only exaggerated to win concessions. But when he made one concession after the other, all that was left was to choose between two alternatives: To give up, step down and get out of Libya, or face a confrontation.

Stepping down enjoys popular, Arab, and international support, while no one would stand by him in the confrontation except those who would be harmed by his departure, since they would all go with him. None of those people could stay in Libya after his departure, since they were all involved in terrorist operations, killings, assassinations, and the pillaging of the Libyan people's wealth that was squandered abroad or deposited in European banks. According to national resistance sources, this wealth amounts to $20 billion, all deposited in personal accounts, particularly that of his eldest daughter, 'A'ishah.

Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi is facing a difficult choice: a confrontation. But how will he face a confrontation when the Libyan people are rejecting him and the Armed Forces are deprived of any influence because of his own decision, and when the revolutionary committees during the 1986 U.S. aggression were the first to flee from the cities to the desert? As for the security groups, they are waiting for his signal to hide just like he did.

These are the resources for a confrontation!

There is nothing left but to step down and to flee or to go to any society in the world that will protect a person depicted by the Western media as a "war criminal" and who has to be gotten rid of.

To those who spoke to him about the fate of Noriega, the ruler of Panama who was taken inside a cage aboard a plane to one of the U.S. jails on charges of drug trafficking, al-Qadhdhafi said that he would be proud to have the same fate as Noriega; that is, to be personally wanted in the United States. Does the colonel still hold the same opinion?

That opportunity remains, because Libyan talks with Western circles and between Arab mediators and these circles are focusing on removing al-Qadhdhafi from Libya and handing over power to alternatives of his choice in return for closing the file on the Libyans accused of blowing up the Pan-American and French planes.

Among the prominent mediators are Egyptian President Husni Mubarak and Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat, whom al-Qadhdhafi is accusing in his private meetings of wanting to expedite handing him over to the West to improve the Palestinian position in the negotiations to settle the Arab-Zionist conflict. Al-Qadhdhafi has spoken of a deal that 'Arafat concluded with French President Mitterrand that involved paying him [not further identified] $100 million in return for silencing the French magistrate who is investigating the explosion aboard the French plane over Africa.

As for President Mubarak, he is complaining bitterly about al-Qadhdhafi's way of dealing with him and of his inconsistent views. He is also complaining that al-Qadhdhafi is not seriously helping him reach a solution because of his fickleness and his deliberate presentation of incorrect information every time the Egyptian president comes close to reaching an agreement with Washington or Paris.

Mubarak adds that he recently visited Paris specifically to solve al-Qadhdhafi's problem but was surprised to hear President Mitterrand tell him that al-Qadhdhafi had asked another Arab figure to mediate, bringing offers and incentives different from those carried by Mubarak.

Washington is determined.

Paris is adamant.

The Arab mediators have lost hope.

Al-Qadhdhafi must choose. A confrontation has been ruled out and the internal front is moving from one misery to another. Al-Qadhdhafi has no choice but to leave. To whom shall he hand over power?

The talk about handing it over to a five-member council chosen by him is only meant to throw dust in the eyes. These members would be of his ilk, but packaged differently from the security groups or revolutionary committees. Therefore, he is presenting the council as a trial balloon, and if the West approves the idea, he would continue wielding power through the council. But if the West rejects the proposal, then he would absolve himself before his supporters by saying that he had tried and could not do much more.

The West is congratulating its proxy: The group called the Libyan National Salvation Front, which is being trained in the United States and is led by Muhammad al-Muqaryif, a man associated with the U.S. intelligence services. The group's military wing is led by Col. Khalifah Haftar, who was taken prisoner while commanding the Libyan forces during the war in Chad. At that time al-Qadhdhafi denied his very existence, saying no officer with that name served in the Libyan Armed Forces. This prompted him to join the opposition. The group is now preparing to send military forces into Libya via Chad whenever Washington decides, particularly if al-Qadhdhafi resorts to confrontation.

A prominent alternative to this group, one that has a popular and more Arab character, was proposed by Major 'Abd-al-Mun'im al-Huni, chairman of the Libyan opposition coordination committee. Al-Huni has been living in Cairo since 1975, after being accused of an attempt to overthrow al-Qadhdhafi with the assistance of Major 'Umar al-Muhayshi, who was later killed by al-Qadhdhafi. Al-Huni proposed Col. Abu-Bakr Yunus as a prospective Libyan leader. He is a former RCC colleague and al-Huni believes him to be militarily, patriotically, and morally qualified to salvage Libya and return it to the path of independence, pan-Arabism, and reason.

Are circumstances ripe for the 1 September revolution to regain its original Arab character through a salvation effort carried out by its citizens under the leadership of Abu-Bakr Yunus? Pessimists believe that Yunus will not abandon al-Qadhdhafi but will remain by his side, although he might occasionally raise objections.

The pessimists add that al-Qadhdhafi will not allow Abu-Bakr to make a move and can at any moment send him back to his house or put him in jail or in his grave if he wants. Al-Qadhdhafi is leaving him alone now because he poses no danger.

On the other hand, optimists believe that Col. Abu-Bakr has learned a lot from his ordeals with this authority that was imposed on him and that he is no longer willing to remain silent, particularly after he saw how the revolution that used Jerusalem as its password on the night of 1 September 1969 is now appeasing the Zionist enemy for the sake of remaining in power. He believes that it was he [al-Qadhdhafi] who involved Libya in acts of murder that brought on the country's blockade. These people say Abu-Bakr feels that silence now would be criminal.

Al-Huni's nomination of Abu-Bakr Yunus is well-received inside Libya, particularly in the Armed Forces. There is opposition, however, and it comes from two sources: First, the West, which wants to topple al-Qadhdhafi and all who are connected in any way with the dream that the al-Fatih revolution symbolized when it began as a pan-Arab and sincere revolution; and second, the revolutionary committees and security groups that al-Qadhdhafi founded as substitutes for the Army, people, society, order, and management. Soon these groups turned into murderous, thieving gangs who stole the Libyan people's wealth and deposited it in European banks.

Who will decide whether Col. Abu-Bakr Yunus is chosen to save Libya in a nationalist way instead of throwing it into a civil war that will be al-Qadhdhafi's last "achievement" against his nation and instead of handing it over to the U.S.-trained Salvation Front so that Washington can get the prize?

The coming days will answer this question, perhaps even before the revolution's 24th anniversary on 1 September. The best gift to the revolution on its anniversary would be for it to continue under the leadership of reasonable patriots who would compensate the country for what al-Qadhdhafi has done in nearly 25 years of absolute rule.

## Sudan

### Inclusion on U.S. List of Terror Sponsors Scored

#### Foreign Ministry Statement Aired

*LD2108222793 Tripoli Libyan Television Network in Arabic 1930 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Text] The Sudanese Foreign Ministry issued the following statement on the decision of the U.S. Government to include Sudan on the list of states that sponsor terrorism:

The Sudanese Government has received with astonishment and regret the announcement of the U.S. Government to include Sudan on the list of states that the United States claims sponsor terrorism. The Foreign Ministry would like in this connection to:

1. Refute this accusation part and parcel because it does not rest on any evidence or convincing standpoints. The U.S. Government was unable to prove Sudan's participation or carrying out of an act of terrorism or that an act of terrorism had been launched from its territory.

2. To accuse Sudan of harboring terrorist organizations is a charge that is unfounded and is not supported by fact. No organization has carried out a terrorist act from Sudan since the advent of this government. Also, no country has come forward with a single piece of evidence that a terrorist act has been committed against it from Sudan. On the contrary, a number of senior officials in neighboring countries have rebutted this charge against Sudan.

3. The pretexts that were given by the U.S. Administration for making that decision are so weak that they do not rise to the level of any material evidence that would justify the taking of a serious decision such as this one.

4. The American threat to include Sudan in the list of states that sponsor terrorism had been circulating for a long period. The Government of Sudan had, through various means and via dialogue and numerous contacts with the U.S. Government, made efforts to refute these charges. It called for meetings between the specialized officials in the two countries to take place in Khartoum or Washington to investigate this question. But, most regrettably, the U.S. Government did not respond to this gesture until now. Instead, it continues to reiterate its charges, confirming the premeditated intention to take this high-handed decision.

5. Accordingly, and in the face of the weakness of the feeble evidence projected by the U.S. Government to justify this decision, the Government of Sudan believes that the main and real reason behind taking the aforementioned decision is the U.S. Government nonacceptance of Sudan's contemporary Islamic direction.

6. It is regrettable that the American Government should close its eyes to the terrorist acts of the mutineer John Garang, specifically the downing of the civilian aircraft over Malakal in 1986, bombing and killing innocent citizens in Juba in 1992, liquidating four foreign nationals who were engaged in relief work in Equatoria this year, and liquidating well over 200 who fled the movement near Tong in Bahr el-Ghazal. Indeed, the American Government not only turned a blind eye to these acts, but it went as far as to receive him and accord him official treatment.

7. The silence of the Government of the United States regarding the savage and terrorist acts that are committed in Bosnia- Herzegovina by the Serbs, in the Arab territories by Israel, and in Somalia stands as a vivid evidence of the double standard that characterizes U.S. foreign policy.

8. Despite all these hostile stands of the U.S. Administration, the Government of Sudan would like to express its eager desire to continue its policy seeking the realization of peace in the country and the smooth flow and delivery of relief supplies to all the needy with the cooperation of the United Nations and volunteer organizations.

#### Evidence Said Lacking

*EA2208183693 Omdurman Sudan Broadcasting Service Network in Arabic 0430 GMT 22 Aug 93*

[Text] The Foreign Ministry has received a memorandum from the American Embassy in Khartoum on the American resolution to include Sudan on the list of states exporting terrorism in the world. The memorandum did not provide any convincing justification or evidence on which the American resolution was based. This was announced by Dr. Qutb al-Mahdi, the ambassador at the Foreign Ministry, to AL-NASIR.

Dr. Qutb described the memorandum as brusque and couched in vehement language incompatible with the American resolution, saying its contents deviated from the allegations fabricated by the African affairs committee of the American congress. He said the memorandum lacked factual content, noting that the American resolution was (?premature). On the press releases the American Embassy had recently been distributing, he said that the U.S. was leading intensive media activity to convince the world about what it is practicing in the way of terrorism against the states rejecting the plan [as heard].

Ambassador Qutb al-Mahdi said that so far the foreign ministry had not received any information on the human rights envoy scheduled to arrive early in September. He said the government would respond appropriately to the allegations. Ambassador Qutb denied that former American president Jimmy Carter had called for the abrogation of the Islamic shari'ah or to allow southern Sudan the option of secession, saying that Carter had not mentioned these options during his visit and meeting with officials.

### Committee Denounces Listing

*LD2108190793 Khartoum SUNA in English 1747 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Text] Khartoum, Aug. 21 (SUNA)—The Social Affairs Committee at the Transitional National Assembly announced Saturday the United State's decision to place Sudan on the list of the states sponsoring terrorism as a conspiracy against Islam.

The committee said, in a statement issued Saturday, that the American terrorism will not deter the Sudanese people from their cultural project.

The committee affirmed its commitment toward its responsiblities of mobilizing the citizens for defending creed and lands of country.

### Role in Plan To Hit UN Denied

*AB2108204593 Omdurman Sudan Broadcasting Service Network in Arabic 0430 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Text] Ambassador 'Uthman Nafi, acting director of political affairs in the foreign ministry, has affirmed that the accusation by the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation against two individuals from Sudan's mission to the United Nations of involvement in the conspiracy to bomb the United Nations building and other sites is baseless and has no proof. He added that the accusation is an attempt to fabricate a charge.

He said that as of now the Sudanese Government had not been officially informed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation of this charge, explaining that Sudan's mission to the United Nations and its embassy in Washington have categorically denied these accusations.

Ambassador Nafi explained that these accusations contradict the statement previously issued by the U.S. foreign ministry. [as heard] He added that if the U.S. foreign ministry has any proof supporting this claim, then it should expose it to public scrutiny.

### Washington Has Made 'Enemy'

*LD2108193993 Khartoum Sudanese Televison in English 1700 GMT 21 Aug 93 (tentative)*

[Text] In reply to Sudan Television's question on the U.S. decision to list Sudan among the terrorist sponsor countries, Dr. Ghazi Salah al-Din, minister of state at the Presidency, said that Sudan is viewed through its trends and orientations concurrently with the American offensive, which wants to subjugate values according to its own perspection. [as heard] Sudan is thus seen as mutinous against this hegemony. Dr. Ghazi said that the decision is not legally founded nor justified with any single evidence on the involvement of Sudan in terrorism. America has thus, he said, become the enemy of Sudan, which is not in its interest.

### Country on 'Road of Jihad'

*EA2008171893 Omdurman National Unity Radio in Arabic 1315 GMT 20 Aug 93*

[Text] Brigadier 'Abd-al-Rahim Muhammad Husayn, secretary general of the Revolution Command Council and minister of the interior, has affirmed that Sudan is proceeding on the road of jihad and bearing arms to defend faith and the homeland. He said the accusation of terrorism, which was leveled at Sudan, will not make us retreat from the line we have approved.

While addressing a handing out ceremony of the third batch of the Khawla Bint al-Azwar camp of the People's Defense, in the Green Square, Brig. Abd al-Rahim added that we will go ahead in mobilizing all of the Sudanese people.

### 'Hundreds' Stage Protest

*AB2108094593 Paris AFP in English 0929 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Text] Khartoum, 21 Aug (AFP)—Hundreds of Moslem fundamentalists held a march in Khartoum to protest against Washington's decision to put Sudan on its list of countries sponsoring terrorism, witnesses said.

Their leader, Al-Shaykh Ahmad Mahjub Hajj Nur, told the rally after Friday prayers that after its decision, "America should know it has become enemy number one," press reports said Saturday.

State television reported that the procession towards the U.S. ambassador's residence was "huge" and showed pictures of marchers shouting anti-American slogans and "Allahu Akbar" (God is great!).

Nur, the imam of the Khartoum university mosque, said the Sudanese people should "fight their enemies wherever they are," describing the crusade as "a struggle between good and evil."

Washington's envoy, Donald Petterson, formally notified the Islamic-backed military junta here of the decision to blacklist the country on Wednesday. It means an end to most U.S. foreign assistance and military aid, but not humanitarian relief.

U.S. state department officials said Sudan had developed ties with the radical pro-Iranian fundamentalist movement Hezbollah and two extremist Palestinian organisations.

American television reports also linked Sudanese diplomats with 12 suspects arrested in June, five of them Sudanese, over an alleged plot to bomb sites in New York.

Khartoum has called Washington's decision "regrettable" and denied the charges of sponsoring terrorists. No official from the Sudanese government or administration was shown taking part in Friday's rally.

The demonstration shown on television was disciplined and there was apparently no violence.

The president of the Sudanese Bar Association, Ali al-Nasry, said the government should shrink U.S. diplomatic representation in Sudan and lodge complaints against Washington at the United Nations, the Arab League and the Organisation of African Unity.

Nasry added that a list of "arrogant states" should be drawn up, with the United States on top, the state-controlled Al-Engaz al- Watan daily reported Saturday.

### Demonstrators Condemn U.S. Decision

*EA2008195593 Khartoum SUNA in English 1615 GMT 20 Aug 93*

[Text] Khartoum, 20 Aug (SUNA)—Prayers [as received] from the main mosques of the Sudanese capital of Khartoum launched demonstrations following Friday prayers in protest of the U.S. resolution for listing Sudan among the countries supporting terroriam.

Al-Shaykh Ahmad Mahjub Hajj Nur addressed the demonstrators from al-Jami' and al-Quwwat al-Masallahah mosques condemning the U.S. decision and allegations against the country and asserted the firm stance of the Sudanese people with the National Salvation Revolution and its cultural orientation.

### SPLA Said Holding 5,000 Hostages in North Uganda

*AB2008165793 London BBC World Service in English 1515 GMT 20 aug 93*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Reports from Kampala say the Sudanese rebels of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army [SPLA] are holding over 5,000 refugees hostage inside northern Uganda. Thousands of people have been fleeing the recent upsurge of fighting in the far south of Sudan between the government and the SPLA. It seems the SPLA fighters are refusing to let the refugees go on to official refugee camps and are allegedly using them as protection against the air attacks across the border by the Sudan Government, which in the past had been vigorously condemned by the Ugandan authorities. On the alleged hostage holding, Eppajar Ojulu telexed this report from Kampala. [read by announcer]

According to the NEW VISION newspaper, about 50 heavily armed SPLA troops are holding the refugees in a strip of land in Arua location near the Uganda-Sudan border. The paper said that for the past week, the people had been held against their will by the rebels inside Ugandan territory. The rebels appear to be using them as a shield against aerial attacks by Sudanese Government fighter planes. The rebels are reported to be digging trenches, despite the call by the local authorities to vacate the area.

The Ugandan local defense forces in the area are reported to have been advised not to attack the rebels and to wait for the government to negotiate with them. The area the SPLA are occupying lies several kilometers inside the Ugandan side of the border and the SPLA rebels are no doubt aware of the boundary between the two countries. The Arua District political chairman Donatu Amabua, was quoted as saying that last Sunday [15 August] fighter planes of the Sudanese Air Force bombed the village of Arua Midigo.

This attack was apparently in response to an attempt by the SPLA fighters hiding in Uganda to shoot one of the planes. The UNHCR representative here, Mr. Ahmed Farah, told me this afternoon that he had no information yet about the matter, but promised to follow it up with the government authorities in Uganda. Also, the Ugandan Government which in the past has reacted fast to any violation of her territory, has not yet issued any statement about the incident. [end recording]

### Former Industry Minister 'Umar Reported Killed

*JN2208145093 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1400 GMT 22 Aug 93*

[Text] It has been officially announced in Khartoum that former Industry Minister Muhammad Ahmad 'Umar has been killed. The former minister was, most probably, fighting in the ranks of the regular Sudanese Army in southern Sudan when he was killed.

The announcement of the death of the minister is the first admission by Khartoum that fighting in southern Sudan has resumed although a cease-fire agreement was concluded between the Sudanese Government and rebels five months ago.

## Bahrain

### Lebanon's al-Hariri, Arab League Chief Arrive on Visit

#### Met by Prime Minister

*JN2208135693 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0900 GMT 22 Aug 93*

[Text] Manama, 22 Aug (WAKH)—Lebanese Prime Minister Rafiq al-Hariri and Arab League Secretary General Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid arrived in Manama this morning on a visit to Bahrain as part of a tour of several Arab states. They will hold talks with senior Bahraini officials on the latest Arab developments. They will also discuss the decision made recently by the Arab foreign ministers conference on supporting the reconstruction of Lebanon.

His Highness Shaykh Khalifah Bin-Salman Al Khalifah, prime minister of Bahrain; ministers; and senior officials in Bahrain welcomed al-Hariri and Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid on their arrival.

#### Arab Developments Discussed

*JN2208140593 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0935 GMT 22 Aug 93*

[Excerpt] Manama, 22 Aug (WAKH)—His Highness Shaykh 'Isa Bin-Salman Al Khalifah, the amir of Bahrain; His Highness Shaykh Khalifah Bin-Salman Al Khalifah, the prime minister of Bahrain; and His Highness Shaykh Hamad Bin-'Isa Al Khalifah, the heir apparent and commander in chief of the Bahrain Defense Force, this morning received Rafiq al-Hariri, the prime minister of fraternal Lebanon, and Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, the Arab League secretary general, on the occasion of their visit to the country.

Their highnesses the amir, the prime minister, and the heir apparent welcomed the country's esteemed guest and the Arab League secretary general. His highness the amir lauded the [word indistinct] relations between the two fraternal countries and the development they are witnessing.

The conferees discussed developments in the Arab region, the efforts to reconstruct Lebanon, the resolutions and recommendations made by the Arab foreign ministers' emergency meeting recently held in Damascus to support the Lebanese cause, and regional and international developments.

The Lebanese prime minister conveyed to their highnesses the amir, the prime minister, and the heir apparent Lebanese President Ilyas al-Hirawi's greetings and wishes of continued progress and prosperity for Bahrain. He said he was pleased to visit Bahrain and emphasized the depth of Bahraini-Lebanese relations. Al-Hariri also briefed his highness the amir on developments in southern Lebanon and the efforts to rebuild Lebanon. [passage omitted]

#### Closed Meeting Held

*JN2208142693 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1155 GMT 22 Aug 93*

[Text] Manama, 22 Aug (WAKH)—His Highness Shaykh Khalifah Bin-Salman Al Khalifah, Bahraini prime minister held a closed meeting with Rafiq al-Hariri, the Lebanese prime minister.

Bilateral relations and ways of developing them in various fields, as well as current developments in the region were discussed at the meeting.

His highness the prime minister hailed the good results of the talks he held with the Lebanese prime minister, and said: We support all aspects of the Lebanese position.

On the situation in Lebanon, his highness said: The situation is good, and every situation needs to be developed or organized. This is what the prime minister, and we with him, seek. We are with him in every reform effort, and Bahrain is always prepared to extend any support possible to Lebanon and its fraternal people.

#### Lebanon Events Reviewed

*JN2208141793 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1015 GMT 22 Aug 93*

[Text] Manama, 22 Aug (WAKH)—Shaykh Muhammad Bin-Mubarak Al Khalifah, the foreign minister of Bahrain, has stated that, during their meeting today, his highness the amir of Bahrain, Lebanese Prime Minister Rafiq al-Hariri, and Arab League Secretary General Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid held a comprehensive review of the recent events in Lebanon and the outcome of the Arab League Council's meeting in Damascus. The Damascus meeting was historic and important as it laid the bases for Arab cooperation and worked out a plan to develop and help Lebanon, the minister said.

The Bahraini foreign minister noted that this visit to Bahrain falls within the framework of these plans, and that his highness the amir voiced his support for the Lebanese Government in its work to achieve security and promote Lebanon.

The minister added that the Arab League secretary general briefed the amir on the League's efforts to close Arab ranks and clear the air among Arab states. The meeting was useful and constructive, and was held within the framework of consultations and coordination.

Regarding the Middle East peace talks, the Bahraini foreign minister said that the Lebanese prime minister briefed the amir on the Lebanese Government's view of these talks and their developments. The minister expressed his belief that they are a positive development. We hope that this development will help Lebanon and the Arab world reach a comprehensive agreement, he added.

## Kuwait

### Amir Departs on Visit to Egypt, Syria, Lebanon

*LD2108083393 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0720 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 21 Aug (KUNA)—The Amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir Al-Ahmad Al-Jabir, left Kuwait today for a visit to Egypt, during which he will have talks with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak on matters of common interest to the two Arab countries.

Shaykh Jabir Al-Ahmad visits Egypt within an Arab tour that includes Syria and Lebanon. The amir is expected to meet President Mubarak in Alexandria during his three-day visit. The office of the amir had described the visit as a "working visit" to the leaders of the three Arab states. [passage omitted]

## Qatar

### Lebanon's al-Hariri, Arab League Chief Depart Doha

*JN2308082393 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0640 GMT 23 Aug 93*

[Text] Doha, 23 Aug (WAKH)—Lebanese Prime Minister Rafiq al-Hariri and Arab League Secretary General Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid left Doha this morning following a two-day visit to Qatar as part of a joint tour of regional states.

They were seen off by His Highness Shaykh Hamad Bin-Khalifah Al Thani, Qatari deputy amir and heir apparent; the ministers; and senior Qatari officials.

## Saudi Arabia

### Television Reports Implementation of Statutes

### Ministerial Office Terms Defined

*LD2008231193 Riyadh Saudi Arabian Television Network in Arabic 1830 GMT 20 Aug 93*

["Royal decree" issued by King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud on the office of ministers and senior civil servants—read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate: Decree No. A/14 dated 3 Rabi' al-Awwal 1414 AH [20 August 1993]. With God's help, we Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, King of Saudi Arabia, after taking cognizance of Article 58 of the basic statute of government issued by Royal Decree No. A/90 dated 27 Sha'ban 1412 AH [March 1992], and after perusing the statute of the ministers and deputy ministers and the distinguished grade officials issued by Royal Decree No. M/10 dated 18 Rabi' al-Awwal 1391 AH [September 1971] and in accordance with the requirements of the public interest, we have ordered the following:

1. The period in office of anyone who is appointed with the grade of minister or the distinguished grade shall not exceed four years and their service shall end at the end of this period, unless a royal order is issued to extend it.

2. The service of those occupying the grade of minister or the distinguished grade at the time this order is issued shall end two years after the date of the issuance, unless a royal order is issued extending the service for a period, which shall not exceed two more years. His service shall terminate with the end of this period unless a royal order is issued for its extension in accordance with Article 1 of this order.

3. The deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and ministers—each within his powers—shall implement this order.

### Decree on Consultative Council Statute

*LD2008234193 Riyadh Saudi Arabian Television Network in Arabic 1830 GMT 20 Aug 93*

["Royal decree" issued by King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud on the Internal Statute of the Consultative Council—read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Decree No. A/15 dated 3.3.1414 [20 August 1993] with God's assistance. King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, having taking cognizance of the statute of the Consultative Council issued by Decree No. A/91 date 27.8.1412 AH [March 1992], decrees the following:

Issues the following:

1. The internal statute of the Consultative Council in the attached form.

2. The statute on the rights and duties of the members in the attached form.

3. The rules for organizing of the financial and functional affairs of the Consultative Council in the attached form.

4. The rules for questioning and putting on trial a member of the Consultative Council and the procedures in the attached form.

These two internal statutes and rules shall be published in the Official Gazette and shall come into force from the date of this decree.

The Internal Statute of the Consultative Council:

#### The Competence of the Chairman of the Council, His Deputy, and the General Secretary

#### Chapter I

Article 1: The chairman of the council shall supervise all the work of the council and represent it in its relations with the other quarters and bodies and speaks for it.

Article 2: The chairman of the council shall chair the sessions of the council and the meetings of the general body, as well as the meetings of the committees that he attends.

Article 3: The chairman of the council opens the sessions and declares their ending; announces the start of discussions during the sessions and takes part in these discussions; gives permission to speak and decides the subject of the discussion; draws the attention of the speaker to the need to keep to the subject and to observe the time; ends the discussion and submits issues for votes; and he has the right to take whatever action he sees fit and sufficient to maintain order during the sessions.

Article 4: The chairman can call the council or the general body or any committee to hold an emergency session to discuss a certain issue.

Article 5: The deputy chairman of the Consultative Council shall assist the chairman of the council when the chairman is present, and assumes his powers in his absence.

Article 6: The deputy chairman shall chair the sessions of the council and the meetings of the general body in the absence of the chairman. In the event they are both absent, the council shall be chaired by the person chosen by the king. In chairing those sessions, he shall have the competence of the chairman of the council.

Article 7: The general secretary, or whoever deputizes for him, shall attend the sessions of the council and the meetings of the general body and supervise the writing of the minutes and convey to the members the dates for the sessions and the agenda, in addition to any work turned over to him by the council, the general body, or the chairman of the council. He shall be responsible to the chairman of the council for the financial and administrative affairs of the council.

**Chapter II—The General Body of the Council**

Article 8: The general body consists of the chairman of the council, his deputy and the chairmen of the specialist committees.

Article 9: The meeting of the general body shall not be legal unless attended by at least two-thirds of its members and its resolutions shall be issued with the endorsement of the majority of present members; in the event of a tied vote, the side supported by the chairman of the meeting shall win.

Article 10: Minutes shall be drawn for every meeting of the general body, noting the date of the meeting, its place, the names of those present and absent, a summary of the discussions, and the recommendations. The minutes shall be signed by the chairman of the meeting and present members.

Article 11: The competence of the general body shall be:

a. To draw up the general plan for the council and its committees in a way that enables it to accomplish its work and achieve its objectives.

b. To draw up the agenda for the sessions of the Council.

c. To rule on whatever objections brought to it by the chairman of the council or the council to the content of the minutes of the sessions or the results of voting and vote counts, or any other objections that could be raised during the sessions of the council. Its decisions shall be final.

d. To issue the necessary rules for the organization of the work of the council and its committee in a way that does not contravene the statute and regulations of the council.

**Chapter III—Sessions**

Article 12: The Consultative Council holds an ordinary session at least once every two weeks. The date and time of the session shall be decided by the chairman of the council, who have the right to bring it forward or to postpone it should the need arise.

Article 13: The agenda shall be distributed to the members prior to the convening of the session. It shall be attached to all documents relevant to the subjects listed on it, which the general authority shall deem necessary to attach to the agenda.

Article 14: Members of the Shura Council should study the agenda at the council premises. He is not permitted in all events to take with him outside the council any papers, or procedures, or documents relating to his function.

Article 15: A member who wishes to speak during the session should request this in writing. Requests for speaking shall be considered according to the order they are submitted.

Article 16: The chairman shall permit those who have requested to speak to do so, taking into account the order their requests were submitted and the requirements of interests with regard to the debate.

Article 17: No member shall be allowed to speak on one subject more than 10 minutes, except with the chairman's permission. Speech shall be addressed only to the chairman or the council, and only the chairman can interrupt the speaker.

Article 18: The council shall have the right to postpone the discussion of any subject or order it to be restudied; the chairman shall have the right to suspend the session temporarily for not more than one hour.

Article 19: Minutes shall be taken for each session; these minutes shall contain the place where the session was held, its date, and the time when it was opened, the name of its chairman, the number of members present, and the names of those who are absent, and the reason for the absence—if any—and a summary of what discussion

took place, and the number of yes and no votes, and the result of the voting, and the texts of the decisions, and all matters relating to the postponement or the suspension of the session, and the time when it ended, and any other matters that the chairman of the council shall deem necessary to write down.

Article 20: The chairman of the council and the secretary general, or whoever is acting on his behalf, shall sign the minutes after they are read in the council. Any member shall have the right to acquaint himself with it.

**Chapter IV—Committees**

Article 21: The Shura Council shall at the beginning of its term of office set up from among its members the specialized committees necessary for carrying out its functions.

Article 22: Each specialized committee shall be composed of members whose number shall be determined by the Council on condition that it shall not be less than five members. The Council shall choose these members and shall nominate from among them a chairman for the committee and his vice chairman. The specialization of the member and the requirements of the committees shall be taken into account in this respect. The council can set up from among its members special committees to study a specific subject, and each committee can set up from among its members one or more subcommittees to study a specific subject.

Article 23: The council can reestablish its specialized committees and set up other committees.

Article 24: The chairman of a committee shall administer its function and speak on its behalf before the council; the vice chairman shall deputize for him in his absence. In the event of the absence of the chairman and the vice chairman, the committee shall be chaired by the eldest member.

Article 25: A committee shall meet at the invitation of its chairman, the council, or the chairman of the council.

Article 26: The meetings of the committees shall not be held in public. Its convening shall not be deemed regular unless at least two-thirds of the members are present. Each committee shall introduce its agenda in accordance with the proposal of its chairman. It shall issue its recommendations by the majority of those present. When votes are equal, the side with which the chairman of the meeting voted shall be deemed the winner.

Article 27: Committees shall study all matters referred to it by the council or the chairman of the council. When such a matter concerns more than a committee, the chairman of the council shall determine which committee shall be given priority or shall refer the matter to a committee to be set up from among all members of the committees concerned. Such a committee shall meet under the chairmanship of the chairman of the council or his vice chairman.

Article 28: Any member of the council can express his opinion on any subject that has been referred to a committee, even if he is not a member of that committee, on condition that he submits his opinion in writing to the chairman of the council.

Article 29: Each committee meeting shall have its minutes written, with the time and place of the meeting, the names of attendants and absentees, and a list of discussions and texts of recommendations. The minutes shall be signed by the meeting chairman and by the attending members.

Article 30: On completion of the discussion of a particular topic, the appropriate committee shall write a report including the gist of the topic referred to it, its opinion on the topic, its recommendations, and the reasons behind them and the opinion of the minority, where a minority exists.

**Chapter V—Voting and Decisionmaking**

Article 31: Decisions of the council shall be issued with a majority, as stipulated in Article 16 of the Consultative Council Statute. If there is no majority, the topic shall be reintroduced for a vote at the next session. If there is still no majority, the topic shall be referred to the king, accompanied by the study carried out on it and showing the result of the votes in both sessions.

Article 32: Discussing or expressing a new opinion during the vote is not permitted. In all cases, the chairman shall cast his vote after the members have cast theirs.

**Chapter VI—General Provisions**

Article 33: The chairman of the Consultative Council shall turn in an annual report, as stipulated in Article 25 of the Council Statute, within the first three months of the new year. The report shall include the studies and works carried out in the previous year and shall specify the decisions made and the phases of topic discussions.

Article 34: Financial and personnel affairs of the council shall be organized according to the financial and personnel affairs regulation. The chairman of the Consultative Council shall issue the rules required for organizing the administrative and financial affairs of the Council, including the organizational structure and tasks of the various administrative bodies attached to the council, in a way that does not contradict the order and regulations of the Consultative Council.

**Rule on the Rights of the Consultative Council Members and Their Duties:**

Article 1: Membership comes into effect as of the beginning of the council mandate, which is fixed in the rule on the foundation of the Consultative Council, according to Article 13 of the council statute. New membership shall begin on the date fixed in the royal order appointing the new member and shall end with the termination of the council mandate. In case the mandate expires before a

new council has been formed, membership shall continue until a new council has been formed, as long as the member concerned had not been stripped of his membership.

Article 2: A member of the Consultative Council shall receive a monthly reward of 20,000 rials and—where allowances, bonuses, compensations, privileges, and holidays are concerned—shall be treated as an employer of Grade 15 without prejudice to his pension payments.

Article 3: A full-time member, who was in public employment before his appointment as council member, shall retain his grade. Time spent in public duty shall count toward seasonal salary increases, promotion, and retirement. During his membership, a member shall pay pension contributions according to his original employment. Combining the rewards and privileges of council membership and job salary and privileges is not permitted. If the job salary exceeds membership rewards, the council shall make up the difference. Where there are more privileges attached to the job than to council membership, the member shall continue receiving them.

Article 4: In exception of Article 2, a member of the council shall be granted a 45-day ordinary annual leave. The chairman of the council shall determine when a member shall be granted this leave. When granting leaves or leave of absence, it should be taken into account that this would not affect the quorum required for the convening of the council session.

Article 5: A member of the council should totally abide by neutrality and objectivity in all the functions he carries out inside the council and should refrain from raising before the council any subject relating to a private interest or contravening a public interest.

Article 6: A member of the council should attend the sessions of the council and its committees regularly. When an emergency prevents a member from attending a session of the Council or a meeting of one of its committees, he should inform the chairman of the council or the chairman of the committee in writing. A member should not leave the session of the council or a meeting of a committee before its end, except with the permission of the chairman of the council or the chairman of the committee as appropriate.

**The Organization of the Council's Financial and Functional Affairs:**

Article 1: The financial year of the Shura Council shall be the financial year of the state.

Article 2: The chairman of the council shall prepare the draft annual budget of the council and submit it to the king for adoption.

Article 3: After its adoption, the amount of the budget shall be deposited with the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency; drawing from it shall be against the signature of the chairman of the council or his vice chairman.

Article 4: If the amounts listed in the budget are not sufficient to meet the council's expenditure, or if there shall be an expenditure that was not foreseen when the budget was made, the council's chairman shall prepare a statement regarding the required additional amount and submit it to the king for adoption.

Article 5: The titles and salaries of the posts of the council shall be defined in the budget. Titles of posts shall be changed and their salaries shall be reduced during a financial year upon the decision of the council's chairman.

Article 6: Occupation of posts of the 14th and 15th levels shall be made with the approval of the king. Occupation of the other posts of the council shall be in accordance with the Civil Service Law and its documents, with the exception of any competition provisions.

Article 7: The general authority of the council shall lay down the principles of dealing with any persons not members of the council—government officials, and others—whose help is sought and the awards they are given. These principles shall be issued as per a decision by the council's chairman.

Article 8: The Shura Council shall not be subjected to the supervision of any other body. There shall be among the Council's administrative departments a management for pre-expenditure financial supervision. The general authority of the council shall assume the supervision of subsequent expenditure. The chairman of the Shura Council can request a financial or administrative expert to produce a report on any financial or administrative affair of the council.

Article 9: At the end of the financial year, the general secretariat of the council shall prepare the final accounts. These shall be submitted by the council's chairman to the king for adoption.

Article 10: Without prejudice to the provisions of this decree, the organization of the council's financial affairs and accounts shall be done in accordance with the principles followed when the accounts of ministries and governmental departments are organized.

**Principles of Investigating or Trying a Member of the Shura Council and Procedures:**

Article 1: If a member of the Shura Council violates any of the duties of his function, he shall be punished with one of the following:

a. He shall be censured in writing.

b. One month's allowance shall be deducted.

c. He shall be stripped of his membership.

Article 2: A committee consisting of three members of the council,to be chosen by the council's chairman,shall investigate a member of the Shura Council.

Article 3: The committee shall inform a member of the offense he is supposed to have committed. The committee shall hear what he has to say and take down his defense in the minutes of the investigation. The committee shall submit the result of the investigation to the general authority of the council.

Article 4: The general authority can set up a committee consisting of three of its members, on condition that they do not include the council's chairman or the vice chairman, to try the member who is accused of the offense. The committee can issue the punishment of censuring or deduction of the allowance. If the committee decides that membership should be taken away, it should submit the matter to the chairman of the Shura Council so that he can submit it to the king.

Article 5: The imposition of any of the aforementioned punishments shall not prevent any public or private lawsuit filed against the member.

### Composition of Consultative Council

*LD2008211793 Riyadh Saudi Arabian Television Network in Arabic 1830 GMT 20 Aug 93*

["Royal decree" issued by King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud on the composition of the Consultative Council—read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Decree No. A/16 dated 3.3.1414H [20 August 1993] with God's assistance.

King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud of the Kingdom of Saudia Arabia, after taking cognizance of the basic bylaw of the government issued according to Royal Decree No. A/90 dated 27.8.1412H and after taking cognizance of the Shura Council bylaw issued according to Royal Decree No. A/91 and dated 27.8.1412H, and in accordance with public interest requirements, we have decreed the following:

1. The Shura Council shall be composed of a chairman and members starting from the date of this decree for a period of four years, whose names are as follows:

Shaykh Muhammad Bin-Ibrahim-Bin-Jubayr: chairman of the Shura Council
Dr. 'Abdallah Bin-'Umar Nasif: vice chairman of the Shura Council
Ibrahim Bin-Qidhi al-Qidhi
Retired Lieutenant General Ibrahim Bin-Muhammad al-Faris
Ibrahim 'Abd-al-Fatah Julaydan
Ahmad Bin-Hamad al-Yahya
Dr. Ahmad Sayr Mubaraki
Dr. 'Usamah Bin-'Abdallah al-Khayat
Bakri Salih Shata
Tawfiq Ibrahim Tawfiq
Dr. Jamil Bin-'Abdallah al-Jishshi
Ret. Major General Jamil Muhammad 'Ali al-Mayman
Dr. Hamad Bin-Muhammad al-Farayan
Khalid Bin-Muhammad al-Qausaybi
Dr. Rida Muhammad Sa'id 'Ubayd
Dr. Zahir Bin-'Awwadh al-'Alma'i
Dr. Zyhayr Ahmad al-Siba'i
Engineer Zuhayr Hamid Husayn Fayiz
Dr. Ziyad Bin-'Abd-al-Rahman al-Sudayri
Dr. Sa'id Bin-Muhammad al-Mallis
Sulayman Bin-'Abd-al-Rahman al-Salih
Dr. Salih Zayni al-Shaybi
Dr. Salih Bin-Sa'ud al-'Ali
Shaykh Salih Bin-'Abd-al-Rahman al-Mazru'
Shaykh Salih Bin-'Abdallah Bin-Humayd
Dr. Salih Bin-'Abdallah al-Malik
Dr. 'Abd-al-Rahman Bin-Ahmad al-Ja'fari
Dr. 'Abd-al-Rahman al-Tayyib al-Ansari
Dr. 'Abd-al-Rahman Bin-Salih al-Shubayri
'Abd-al-Rahman Bin-'Abdallah 'Aba al-Khayl
Dr. 'Abd-al-'Aziz Bin-Ibrahim al-Fayiz
'Abd-al-'Aziz Ahmad al-Rifa'i
Dr. 'Abd-al-Aziz al-'Ali al-Na'im
'Abd-al-'Aziz Bin-Muhammad Abu-Milhah
Maj.-Gen. 'Abd-al-'Aziz Bin-Muhammad Bin-'Abd-al-Muhsin Al al-Shaykh
Engineer 'Abd-al-Kadir Hamzah Kushaq
'Abdallah Bin-Hamad al-Qar'awi
Dr. 'Abdallah Bin-al-'Aziz al-Minayfi
Dr. 'Abdallah Bin-'Abd-al-Muhsin al-Sultan
'Abd-al-Latif Bin-Hamad Bin-Muhammad al-Jabur
Dr. 'Ali Bin-Ibrahim al-Namlah
Dr. 'Ali Bin-Talal al-Jihani
'Ali 'Abdallah al-Jaffali
Umran Bin-Muhammad Bin-Yusuf al-Umran
Dr. Falih Bin-Zayd al-Falih
Dr. Fahd al-'Urabi al-Harithi
Faysal Ahmad Zaydan
Ret. Maj.-Gen. Kamal Siraj al-Din al-Marghalani
Dr. Muhammad Bin-Ibrahim al-Jarallah
Dr. Muhammad al-Ahmad al-Rashid
Muhammad Ahmad Yusuf Zaynal
Dr. Muhammad Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Mu'ammar
Muhammad Bin-'Abdallah al-Humayyid
Shaykh Muhammad Bin-'Abdallah al-Salim
Muhammad Bin-'Abdallah al-Sharif
Muhammad Bin-'Abdullah al-Ghulayqah
Muhammad Bin-'Abdullah al-Nafi'
Dr. Mansur Ibrahim al-Hazimi
Dr. Mansur Bin-Muhammad al-Nuzhah
Dr. Nizar 'Ubayd Madani
Dr. Hashim 'Abdu Hashim

2. The chairman of the Shura Council shall implement our decree.

### Afghan Premier Arrives at Jeddah Airport 21 Aug

*LD2108151993 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1420 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Excerpt] Jeddah, 21 Aug (SPA)—His Excellency Golboddin Hekmatyar, the prime minister of the Islamic State of Afghanistan, arrived in Jeddah this afternoon on a visit to the Kingdom.

His Royal Highness Prince Sultan Bin-'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, defense minister and aviation and inspector general, met his excellency at the King 'Abd-al-'Aziz International Airport. [passage omitted]

### Fahd Meets With Hekmatyar

*LD2108200993 Riyadh SPA in English 1930 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Text] Jeddah, Aug 21, SPA—Custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd Bin 'Abd-al-'Aziz received at his office, al-Salam Palace here tonight the Afghan prime minister, Golboddin Hekmatyar and his accompanying delegation.

The royal audience was attended by Ibrahim al-Ankari, the special advisor of the king, 'Ali al-Sha'ir, the minister of information and Muhammad Ibrahim Mas'ud, the minister of state and member of the cabinet.

Prime Minister Hekmatyar was accompanied by Foreign Minister Hedayat Amin Arsala, Finance Minister 'Abdol Karim Khalili, the State Minister for Financial Affairs Hamidullah Tarzi and the Governor of the Central Bank Dr. Zabehollah Eltizam.

## Yemen

### President Receives Message From Libya's al-Qadhdhafi

*JN2208145893 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 22 Aug 93*

[Text] During his meeting with the Libyan charge d'affaires in Sanaa today, Foreign Minister Muhammad Salim Basindwah received a message for brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, the chairman of the Presidential Council, from his brother Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the 1 September Libyan revolution.

### Basindwah Sees Relations With Gulf States Improving

*PM1908134293 London AL-WASAT in Arabic 16-22 Aug 93 pp26-27*

[Interview with Foreign Minister Muhammad Salim Basindwah by 'Abd-al-Wahhab al-Mu'ayyid in Sanaa; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Al-Mu'ayyid] Your meetings with Gulf states' officials have succeeded in reviving Yemeni-Gulf relations. What were the most important practical results of these meetings and talks and how do you envisage future relations in the light of these results?

[Basindwah] Many results were achieved with most of the Arab Gulf states with whose leaders or officials we held talks in Sanaa, Jeddah, and Manama. The most important result of these meetings is the common desire to gradually restore warm fraternal relations and end the estrangement resulting from the second Gulf crisis and the differences of views on ways of solving the problem of Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.

There can be no doubt that the meetings helped break down the psychological barriers and helped reconciliation, but the restoration of the desired warmth to our relations requires continuation of contacts, direct meetings, and exchange of visits. With time, relations will, God willing, improve further. [passage omitted]

I can say that the coming months and years will see Yemeni-Gulf relations becoming better than they were before August 1990 (when Iraq invaded Kuwait).

[Al-Mu'ayyid] In your view, to what extent do the special Yemeni-Saudi relations constitute an auxiliary factor in ending the estrangement? Do you see the Joint Borders Committee as a contributory factor?

[Basindwah] There can be no doubt that the special nature of Yemeni-Saudi relations dictates that the two fraternal neighboring countries should work jointly to enhance coordination and cooperation in all fields. It can be said that the state of stagnation which characterized relations between the two countries over the three years since August 1990 has been overcome. While acknowledging the importance of solving the border problem to prevent differences occurring from time to time and to create better circumstances for increasing cooperation and cohesion between the two neighboring Arab states to the highest possible level, I say that relations between the two countries were strong and close before the second Gulf crisis which resulted, regrettably, from Iraq's invasion and occupation of Kuwait, despite the existence of the border problem which, clearly, was not the cause of the coolness and estrangement in Yemeni-Saudi relations.

[Al-Mu'ayyid] Do you mean that the issue of relations is quite separate from the border problem?

[Basindwah] I mean that the fact that the border issue is still unresolved should not prevent normalization and development of relations. I believe that the better and more developed our relations are with the fraternal Kingdom [of Saudi Arabia] the easier it will be to solve the border problem. Although a solution should be sought for the border problem, that does not mean that the improvement and strengthening of relations should be contingent on reaching agreement regarding the border problem, because such agreement could take months or even years, not days. We have no intention of leaving that problem without a solution. We must end the problem through direct fraternal negotiations in the shortest possible time, God willing. [passage omitted]

[Al-Mu'ayyid] Do you expect summit meetings between Yemen and its neighbors this year?

[Basindwah] I hope that summit meetings and visits will take place as early as possible.

Summit meetings would undoubtedly give a big boost to bilateral and multilateral relations among the states of the region on the road to cooperation, coordination, and cohesion.

[Al-Mu'ayyid] How do you explain the reservations of certain parties, and what effect will this have on the relaxation process in Yemeni-Gulf relations in general?

[Basindwah] It may be that these parties cannot see beyond their own noses or that they do not really know their own interests, but I do not know whom you mean by parties intransigent on the question of relaxation in Yemeni-Gulf relations. Whoever they are and however intransigent, the relaxation trend will, with time, force them to change their position, go along with the general trend, and swim with the sweeping current. [passage omitted]

**Border Talks With Saudi Arabia To Resume 9 Oct**

*JN2008171293 Aden Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1500 GMT 20 Aug 93*

[Text] Meetings of the fifth round of negotiations by the Joint Yemeni-Saudi Committee of Experts at the Presidential Palace in Ta'izz, held from 15 to 19 August, concluded yesterday afternoon.

The committee meetings were led, on the Yemeni side, by Dr. Ja'far Sa'id Ba Salih, deputy director of the Presidential Council Office and head of the Yemeni side to the committee meetings. Dr. Matlab al-Faqih, head of the Experts Section at the Saudi Council of Minister, led the Saudi side at the committee meetings .

At the conclusion of the final session of this round of negotiations, which was held at noon yesterday, a joint press statement was issued on the joint committee meetings.

The statement indicated that the two sides exchanged and explained working papers which expressed their views about outstanding border issues between the two fraternal countries. The two sides expressed satisfaction with the respect, fraternal sentiments, and understanding that permeated the meetings. They agreed to convene meetings of the sixth round of negotiations in Riyadh in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on 9 October.

The statement said the itinerary of the Saudi delegation's visit included arrangements for visits to tourist areas in the Provinces of Ta'izz and Ibb.

## Media Reaction to U.S. Air Attack Continues

### Memorandum Sent to Arab League

*JN2208133693 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1225 GMT 22 Aug 93*

[Text] Cairo, 22 Aug (INA)—Iraq today acquainted the Arab League with the new U.S. aggression, in which U.S. warplanes attacked an air defense battery west of the city of Mosul on 19 August.

Dr. Nabil Najm, Iraq's representative to the Arab League, handed a memorandum to the Arab League asserting that the United States is exercising a policy that is hostile to Iraq and that the air blockade against Iraq is not based on any of the UN resolutions.

In a statement to the press reported by an INA correspondent in Cairo, the Iraqi envoy said that the hostile U.S. policy reaffirms the U.S. Administration's insistence on endangering Iraq's safety and national unity.

He added that, despite Iraq's eagerness to implement Security Council resolutions, the U.S. Administration wants to harm Iraq and its people further and to tighten the blockade in spite of international calls to end it.

Dr. Nabil Najm urged the Arab countries to take responsible stands by rejecting plans that not only target Iraq's security, but also overall Arab security.

He also stressed that although the Arab countries maintain different positions, it is high time for them, after all these years of blockade, to retreat from their positions and refuse to take part plans to harm Iraq and its people.

### 57 U.S. Cluster Bombs Defused

*JN2108180693 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1745 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Aug (INA)— Civil Defense Directorate experts in Ninawa Governorate, 400 km north, of Baghdad have defused 57 U.S.-made Cluster bombs of the BLU-97 type that U.S. planes dropped on an air defense position near Mosul last Thursday [19 August] morning.

The head of the Ninawa Civil Defense Directorate told INA that bomb experts in the directorate continue to search for unexploded bombs, which were spread over vast areas of agricultural land near that position.

The Civil defense director called on peasants, farmers, and shepherds to keep away from the unexploded bombs to safeguard their lives and their property.

### Attack Reflects Clinton's 'Sense of Failure'

*JN2008160093 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0710 GMT 20 Aug 93*

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Aug (INA)—Two Iraqi newspapers have condemned yesterday's air attack on Iraq, calling it evidence that Bill Clinton is following the same hostile line of successive U.S. Administrations.

AL-THAWRAH and AL-'IRAQ termed yesterday's action reckless and irresponsible. It was a manifestation of arrogance and an instance of saber-rattling in a world lacking balance, in which the United States has exclusive control of decisionmaking and of the United Nations.

AL-THAWRAH, the organ of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, said in an editorial: The latest act of aggression betrays the Clinton administration's sense of failure in its quest to achieve the objective of the ongoing aggression on Iraq.

The paper called the dropping of thermal flares on farms near Mosul and then bombs on civilians who rushed to douse the fires a reckless American action prompted by an appetite for murder, as well as being a form of pressure, intimidation, and provocation.

Yesterday's action on the part of the Clinton administration provides fresh evidence that the air exclusion zones are illegal and that the United Nations has nothing to do with them. First and foremost, AL-THAWRAH went on, the action set out to sustain aggression and conspiracy on Iraq and threaten its security, territorial integrity, and the unity of its people.

The U.S. Administration has been driven to fabricating further crises with Iraq and compromising its dignity and sovereignty by its failure to subdue Iraq and to realize U.S. objectives there.

AL-'IRAQ, wondering about the timing of the American aggression, adds: We cannot but see a link between the latest aggression and the growing frustration of the White House or rising support for Iraq and growing official and popular calls around the world for lifting the embargo.

The paper links the latest string of attacks on Iraq with its principled, national, and independent positions. The American aircraft action near Mosul must be seen in the context of repeated attempts by the U.S. Administraton to dent the Iraqis' steadfastness and dampen their enthusiasm to build their country. It charged that U.S. officials preplanned the killing of defenseless civilians, noting that the dropping of thermal flares was followed by the dropping of bombs.

AL-'IRAQ termd yesterday's action cowardly, illogical, and irresponsible. It is typical of arrogant American policies that have become a hallmark of the new world order.

The U.S. Administration should have realized that such dastardly acts will fail to shake the Iraqis. American and Zionist aggressors have tried all kinds of aggression, each time ending up disgraced and accursed losers, AL-'IRAQ declared.

### Raid Termed 'Stupid Aggression'

*JN2108101193 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0635 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Aug (INA)—The newspaper AL-QADISIYAH has described the new U.S. aggression against Iraq as a stupid aggression which smacks of treachery. The Clinton administration, the paper says, has shown such an attitude more than once through fabricated acts of aggression against Iraq and its people.

The newspaper, mouthpiece of the Defense Ministry, said in article today that Iraq is aware of the suspect objectives of this childish behavior, through which Washington seeks to reshuffle the cards and curb the growing Arab and world understanding and support for Iraq's position.

The paper explains that through its new aggression, the U.S. Administration wanted to create a media uproar to distract attention from the undecided and reluctant U.S. policy on the tragedy in Bosnia-Herzegovina. The paper affirms that the continuation of this tragedy embodies the hypocrisy and duplicity of Washington and the U.S.-influenced West toward world issues. This is what the world comes to realize after each criminal aggression against Iraq and its people.

The paper says that in an attempt to avoid embarrassment with respect to its double standards, the U.S. policy perhaps wants to export its impasse in the form of a media clamor that accompanies each stupid act of aggression against Iraq.

Concluding its article, the newspaper stresses that Iraq and its people under their historic leadership, represented by President Saddam Husayn, cannot be intimidated by such childish adventures. Such acts cannot undermine the steadfastness of the Iraqi people who know how to deal with America's ravens who fled in panic from the fire of justice.

### U.S. Pilots Said 'Bribed'

*JN2108104393 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0640 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Aug (INA)—The newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH has said that U.S. President Bill Clinton "needs a slap similar to the one he got in Somalia and to the one that Ronald Reagan got in Lebanon, to restore his balance and attitude toward fateful Arab issues."

In an article today headlined "Iraq and America's Pains in the Region," the paper affirms that our Arab people are capable of dealing such a blow to the U.S. presence in their territories. Such a blow would make Clinton face something he tries to evade—the exposed game of double standards. This game of double standards will definitely backfire against those involved.

The newspaper stresses that Iraq is not an easy morsel to be swallowed by the United States without pains and deadly diseases being felt throughout the region.

The paper continues: Through their steadfastness and rallying around their national leadership, the Iraqi people have managed to destroy the American "Rambo" myth and to turn this myth into a paper tiger. The Iraqi people have also refused to come under U.S. influence under any circumstances.

The newspaper reveals that the rulers of Kuwait and Saudi Arabia recently bribed U.S. pilots who take off from their territories to carry out air sorties over Iraq under a UN cover to fabricate false pretexts for attacking Iraqi defenses.

In conclusion, the paper says that the rulers of Kuwait and Saudi Arabia paid those pilots hundreds of thousands of dollars to create tension and justify the continuation of the unjust blockade against Iraq.

### Raid Reflects U.S. 'Incompetence'

*JN2208122593 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0619 GMT 22 Aug 93*

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Aug (INA)—AL-THAWRAH has denounced the new aerial American aggression which took place west of Mosul, northern Iraq, last Thursday [19 August]. In an article under the headline "Their Aggression Reiterates Its Incompetence," AL-THAWRAH, organ of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, says: This stupid aggression comes as the Iraqis affirm that the American aggression is not an inevitable fate and that free nations can, through their sacrifices and steadfastness, survive and build their countries.

AL-THAWRAH stresses that Iraq's will, patience, steadfastness, and determination to safeguard its will, leadership, and pride in facing American belligerency have proven the incompetence of the criminal American force.

AL-THAWRAH adds: The aggression that took place to the west of Mosul last Thursday does not add anything new to the barbaric American destructive action, but reiterates the impasse of American incompetence in terms of timing and form.

The paper adds: The existence of the giant Iraq in terms of its historic leader and epic-like steadfastness is a sufficient evidence of the failure of the colonialist American aggression. This will give the sons of the Arab nation and all people in the world confidence in themselves and in their potential to reject submission to American arrogance.

AL-THAWRAH says that the aerial American aggression—carried out by the aggressors' aircraft charged with implementing the American-Atlantic ban decision made by the aggressors to form and protect an agent pocket in northern Iraq—cannot save this pocket from collapse because it lacks the components of existence and because

it faces Iraqi patriotism which rejects any encroachment on the unity of the Iraqi territory and people in the south and north.

### Mosque Preachers Condemn Raid

*JN2008170193 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1600 GMT 20 Aug 93*

[Text] Mosque imams and preachers in Baghdad and the governorates have blessed the birthday anniversary of Prophet Muhammad, may God's peace be upon him. In their Friday [20 August] prayer speeches in Iraqi mosques, they stressed the prophet's anniversary is an opportunity for us to renew our resolve to press ahead and keep the banner of jihad aloft in defense of the principles of justice and freedom that were exalted and defended by the virtuous Muslim faith.

They condemned the American aggression on an air defense site west of Mosul, terming it a cowardly act calculated to cause damage to property and life. They indicated that the U.S. aggression has shown the U.S. Administration to have failed the test of justice and credibility by hurting defenseless citizens.

The preachers and imams urged Muslims around the world to close ranks behind the mujahid leader Saddam Husayn as they stand up to abominable imperialist conspiracies. They beseeched God to preserve Iraq and its people and mujahid leader Saddam Husayn and guide his steps down the road of benevolence and clear victory.

### U.S.-Saudi Aircraft Deal 'Slap' to Europe

*JN2208102593 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0621 GMT 22 Aug 93*

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Aug (INA)—The newspaper AL-THAWRAH has affirmed that the U.S.-Saudi aircraft deal publicly excludes Europe from the Middle East markets. This deal reminds Europe that its share in the Gulf is nothing more than oil delivered to it under U.S. terms.

In an article today under the headline "A Deal for the United States and a Slap to Europe," the paper says that after the 30-state aggression against Iraq, Washington not only demands the Gulf oil, but also the money earned from this oil. The paper asks: How much oil money has Washington extracted since the beginning of the [Gulf] war, including the 6 $billion that Fahd the meek will pay to save the U.S. aircraft industry from its dangerous crisis?

The paper adds that the U.S.-Saudi aircraft deal reveals that those who chose to be enemies to Iraq were and still are inimical to their own interests, status, and independence. They will discover that Iraq's economic losses as a result of the destruction and blockade are much less than their tremendous economic losses and, more importantly, their ethical losses.

The paper asks: Will the Europeans discover the true reasons behind the lie that the United States invented in the fall and winter of 1990 about an Iraqi threat to Saudi Arabia?

The paper continues: If they discover this fact, albeit late, through the force of their economic losses rather than the force of the injustice being practiced against Iraq, will they reconsider their policies? Will Europe rise to defend its interests, not to mention morals and principles?

### Letter Protests U.S. Use of Saudi, Kuwaiti Facilities

*JN2308053793 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 0500 GMT 23 Aug 93*

[Text] Iraq has informed the Arab League that the rulers of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait are still offering facilities to U.S., British, and French aircraft violating Iraqi airspace.

In a letter to the Arab League secretary general yesterday, Iraq's permanent representative said that on 17 and 18 August the aircraft continued to violate Iraq's airspace, taking off from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, conducting 94 aggressive sorties.

### Radio Assails U.S. 'Double Standards'

*JN2208182493 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1620 GMT 22 Aug 93*

[Political commentary by Rayfan Matar from the "Spotlight on the News" program]

[Text] Political observers have noticed that the United States and its allies no longer have any respect for the UN Charter or international law because they have turned this organization into a tool for carrying out their international strategy and imposing U.S. hegemony over the world. Moreover, the United States has not paid its debts to the organization, amounting to $762 million, thus encouraging other countries not to pay their debts to the organization. This clearly shows that the United States uses double standards toward the United Nations and its resolutions.

The United States and its allies also used double standards in dealing with Iraq including military aggression; the continuing, unjust blockade; airspace violations for purposes of provocation and surveillance; and interference in Iraq's domestic affairs. The United States also exercised part of this double standards policy against the Arab countries that took an honorable position toward Iraq, the foremost of these is Sudan.

Here, we have to raise the following important question: What hostile projects has the United States prepared and implemented against Sudan? The answer is found in Western newspapers and the statements of U.S. officials.

U.S. newspapers reported that responsible U.S. authorities have provided the rebels in southern Sudan with military weapons and equipment, and have urged the Egyptian regime to raise the issue of Hala'ib, level military threats, and accuse Sudan of supporting the Egyptian opposition.

Recently, the United States accused Sudan of backing international terrorism, and decided to place Sudan on the list of countries sponsoring international terrorism. Ambassador 'Uthman Nafi', political affairs director at the Foreign Ministry, said that the Federal Bureau of Investigation is lying when it accuses two members of Sudan's UN mission of involvement in a plot to blow up the UN headquarters and other places, and that the accusation is intended for aggressive purposes.

The Sudanese ambassador wondered: If the U.S. State Department has any evidence supporting its allegation, then why doesn't it disclose this evidence to the world? He also pointed out that the Sudanese Embassy in Washington has categorically denied these accusations. Referring to U.S. accusation against Sudan, political commentators added that it was similar to the accusation the U.S. Administration fabricated when it charged Iraq with plotting to assassinate George Bush. The United States used this lie to repeat its aggression against Iraq.

The Sudanese masses, who staged clamorous demonstrations in Sudanese cities, realize that there is a plot behind this U.S. game to carry out an aggression against Sudan. Therefore, the Sudanese masses have urged the international community to condemn this decision and confront the U.S. conspiracy. The Sudanese masses chanted: Sudan can neither be intimidated by U.S. threats nor derailed from its independent progressive policy.

## Technical Team To Help Sudan Build White Nile Bridge

*JN2008193793 Baghdad AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 16 Aug 93 pp 1, 5*

[By Husayn 'Iran]

[Text] At the end of this month, technical and engineering cadres at the Housing and Reconstruction Ministry will offer their consultative and design services in order to build the fourth bridge on the White Nile in Sudan.

This was reported to AL-THAWRAH by Qasim al-Bakri, director general of the Ministry's planning and follow-up department, adding that minutes of a cooperation agreement were signed by the Ministry and the Sudanese housing and public utilities ministry [as published]. The minutes provide for cooperation with the Consultative House in Sudan in designing this bridge, supervising the phases of its construction, and preparing a study by the Ministry's organs to set up concrete pile plants in Khartoum. The Ministry will also dispatch experts to Sudan to supervise the construction of these plants.

Al-Bakri added: The agreement recently signed in Baghdad by Engineer Yusuf Zamrawi, head of the Sudanese delegation that visited Iraq, also provides for cooperation in the field of construction laboratories. The Ministry's national center for construction laboratories will work out bases to establish a similar center in Sudan. In the long run, technical and engineering experience will be exchanged between the two centers, he noted.

## Syrian-Israeli Agreement Said 'Imminent'

*JN2108171393 Baghdad Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1500 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Brothers: An official U.S. source in Washington, who refused to disclose his name, has said that the negotiations which will be held in the U.S. capital during the next two weeks will lead to a Syrian-Zionist declaration of principles. The source said this round will focus on the possibility of reaching a Syrian-Zionist settlement agreement. It will seek to prepare a formula satisfying both parties, in light of the agreement reached between regime President Hafiz al-Asad and enemy Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin during U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher's recent tour of the region.

Therefore, the Syrian-Zionist agreement is imminent. Everything was arranged during the U.S. secretary of state's recent tour of the region. It is not strange to see such an agreement because Hafiz al-Asad has paved the way for it for many years. All his practices signalled that trend, which began with the coup he led in 1970 to hold power and ended with his crimes against the Syrian, Lebanese, and Palestinian Arab peoples, his absolute silence about and approval of the recent Zionist aggression on southern Lebanon, and his announcement of the possibility of an agreement with the Zionist. All the masks have fallen down [words indistinct] just as al-Sadat had sought it, but he forgot the fate of al-Sadat. However, he will remember it well when the Syrian Arab people punish him.

## Negotiations With UN Special Commission To Open

*JN2308105693 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1030 GMT 23 Aug 93*

[Text] A responsible Foreign Ministry source today made the following statement to INA:

In accordance with the agreement made during the visit of Rolf Ekeus, chairman of the Special Commission, to Baghdad last July, technical talks will begin in New York on 31 August. The talks will address unresolved technical issues between Iraq and the Special Commission, related to the section on weapons in Resolution 687. The

talks will also examine the means to implement Resolution 715 in light of the position paper presented by Iraq to Mr. Ekeus, which stressed the need for the Security Council to fulfill its obligations toward Iraq, especially lifting the unjust embargo, respecting Iraq's sovereignty and security, and respecting Iraq's natural right to development, as guaranteed by the UN Charter and international law.

INA has learned that Engineer Lieutenant General Dr. 'Amir Rashid, director of the Military Industrialization Organization, will lead the Iraqi side in the technical delegation, which includes specialists in fields related to the nature of the talks. It also includes specialists from the Foreign Ministry.

In accordance with the agreement made with Ekeus, political, technical talks will follow the first stage, which will begin in New York on 31 August.

### Regime Reportedly Moves Weapons, Equipment to Forest

*NC2208190893 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Kurdistan in Arabic 1700 GMT 22 Aug 93*

[Text] A reliable source in Baghdad has reported that military industry officials have recently moved weapons and equipment stored in the al-Hasa area, near Baghdad, to the forest. The source adds that UN inspection teams mainly search buildings and not forests.

### Iranian Forces Reportedly Shell Kurdish Border Area

*NC2208191193 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Kurdistan in Arabic 1700 GMT 22 Aug 93*

[Text] Eastern border areas of Iraqi Kurdistan adjacent to Iran have been the target of artillery shelling and provocations by the Iranian forces in the past two days. Our correspondent reports that the Iranian forces opened machine-gun fire at vehicles moving on the border road in the Kele district the day before yesterday. Iranian artillery also shelled (Rutoshoy) plain in the Sangar district, causing damage to the people's property and farms in this area.

### Minister Inaugurates New Kurdish Radio Station

*NC1808202993 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Kurdistan in Arabic 1700 GMT 16 Aug 93*

[Text] Minister of Culture Shirku Bakis inaugurated the Kurdistan region's radio station yesterday. The radio transmits on mediumwave 1000 kw [as heard]. The minister expressed the hope that this radio station would soon cover all the areas in the region.

It is worth noting that this radio's programs will be beamed to Irbil Governorate and adjacent areas for now.

### Saddam Forces Said Terrorizing al-Basrah Marshlands

*NC2208152393 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi People in Arabic 1400 GMT 22 Aug 93*

[Text] The forces of tyrant Saddam Husayn have waged a wide-scale attack, preceded by heavy artillery shelling, on the villages of (al-Jazri), (al-Imarah), and (Shtayt) of al-Madinah Province in the al-Basrah marshlands last week.

According to news from the embattled south, the inhabitants of the above villages fought back with the few weapons they had. Fierce clashes lasting for four hours ensued, in which the villagers wounded 25 elements of the attacking force, destroyed three vehicles, and captured a quantity of weapons and ammunition. Ten of the villagers were killed and 18 were wounded. Twenty-two houses were destroyed.

According to reports from the south of the country, large numbers of tyrant Saddam Husayn's forces are holding intensive drills with live ammunition in (al-Jawabir) area, east of al-Qurnah Province in al-Basrah Governorate. The maneuvers are taking place under the direct supervision of the commander of the 3d Corps and other senior officers.

Accompanying the drills were arbitrary measures by the regime's forces to make the inhabitants of al-Basrah leave their areas and assemble in (al-Jawabir). The citizens are afraid that these forces would carry out a large-scale attack on al-Basrah marshlands or massacre the inhabitants being assembled in (al-Jawabir). Fear, worry, and tension are widespread among the citizens, who expect the worst to happen. Maneuvers of this type have in the past preceded attacks by the tyrant forces against the unarmed population of the marshlands.

### 'Udday Unanimously Reelected Journalists Association Head

*JN2008115893 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1100 GMT 20 Aug 93*

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Aug (INA)—Iraqi journalists have unanimously reelected 'Udayy Saddam Husayn as president of their association.

An extraordinary session, called by 'Udayy Saddam Husayn, the president of the Iraqi Journalists Association, was held today under the slogan "Democracy is the Source of Strength for Individuals and Society." A democratic ballot was conducted during the meeting to reaffirm confidence in the association's current council.

In a speech opening the session, Dr. Sabah Yasin, first vice president of the Iraqi Journalists Association, said this free election was conducted to reaffirm confidence in the council. He urged the members of the general assembly to choose their representatives to serve the journalistic march in a democratic manner.

## Officials React to Shamir Criticism of IDF

### Rabin: Attacks Harm Democracy

*TA2308063193 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0500 GMT 23 Aug 93*

[Telephone interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin by Gay Zohar and Ya'el Dan—recorded "an hour ago"]

[Excerpt] [Zohar] In the cabinet session yesterday you were very determined in defending the chief of staff. Did the timing or the content of the remarks make you decide to come out in defense of Lieutenant General Ehud Baraq, following the attack on him by Yitzhaq Shamir and Refa'el Eytan?

[Rabin] It was the combination of the two, but mainly the content. The Army is the body in charge of implementing the government's policy when the use of force is called for and is assigned with defending the state and its residents. It is inconceivable that in a democracy the Army would be subject to anything else but the elected civilian echelons. If the opposition has a problem with the Army, it should address its complaints to the government. An attack on the Army, its commanders, its chief commander, is unheard of—mainly when the accusations are political in nature. I, therefore, believe that the onslaught by some of the Likud leaders against the chief of staff and the Army harms the very foundations of Israel's progressive democracy, in which the Army is subordinated to the government and exclusively follows its instructions.

[Dan] Would you, under different circumstances, not find fault with the chief of staff's remarks about the Syrian president? Can this not be seen as a political statement?

[Rabin] I do not believe the remark had political connotations. The reality is that we are in a state of war with most of our neighboring countries. We are in a constant war against terror from Lebanon, with its various forms and shapes, and from Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza. It is only natural that the military echelons would address themselves to the issue in various forums, including state forums such as the cabinet, the Knesset, and its committees. I do not believe that the chief of staff's remarks constitute a deviation from the prevailing policy regarding remarks by military men. Therefore, I find no fault with the chief of staff's remarks.

[Zohar] Perhaps the source of the attacks are the rumors about the chief of staff's political aspirations after he retires from the Army?

[Rabin] Since I have never discussed the chief of staff's future career with him, I do not know what his plans are. In the past, chiefs of staff went on various ways, but while in uniform they were not politically involved, which is how it should be.

[Dan] Do you believe that the remarks made against the chief of staff and other officers could cause real damage, or do the public and the soldiers know how to read into such remarks by politicians?

[Rabin] I am certain that the attacks against the chief of staff and the Army's top brass, and against the entire Army as a result, could cause severe damage to the stability of Israeli democracy. A democracy is first and foremost tested by the full subordination of the army to the democratically elected echelons. [passage omitted]

### Netanyahu Comments

*TA2108180693 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1700 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Text] Angry reactions are reported from senior circles in the defense forces against what they consider insulting remarks made by former Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Tzomet party leader Refa'el Eytan. Shamir said in a radio interview yesterday that instead of seeking solutions to terror, Army commanders are playing politics and following blindly those leading the country to a national disaster. The sources say that Shamir should know better than to attack officers in uniform who are unable to respond.

Likud leader Binyamin Netanyahu was asked to respond to Shamir's allegations. Netanyahu explained what Israel should do now, following Thursday's [19 August] attacks by Hizballah in which nine soldiers were killed.

[Begin recording] [Netanyahu] The first thing is to recognize reality, and the first bit of reality to be recognized is that there is no value whatsoever to the understandings, to the so-called understandings achieved with Syria [which has a] license to unleash Hizballah in the security zone, trying to break it down and killing Israeli soldiers in the process. That has to be changed, first on the political level and, second, on the security level as well.

On the political level, Syria must be told that the first and only item on the agenda of the peace talks, as long as things stand as they are, is the cessation of Hizballah terrorism supported by Syria from Lebanon. That should be Israel's insistence. That is the only subject worth negotiating right now. Otherwise, we are making a mockery of the idea of peace talks and peace itself.

[Correspondent David Essing] Prime Minister Rabin says that if Israel were to do this, this would only increase the influence of Iran in the region.

[Netanyahu] It wouldn't influence Iran. Israel cannot sustain such devastating blows and pretend that they haven't happened. It would increase the influence of Israel, if Israel started making clear demands that any nation can make against its neighbors. We are entitled to have security in the north of Israel. Lebanon has a weak government, practically no government—in the south, none whatsoever—and it can't discharge its responsibility. We do it, as is our right by international law and

by common sense. When we do so, using the security zone and they try to break it down, as the Hizballah does. And the Hizballah says very openly that the road to Tel Aviv goes through Marj 'Uyun. Well, it's about time that we made clear that no one can attack us with impunity, and that means both Hizballah and Syria, that supports Hizballah. On Hizballah, we should act militarily, without tying our hands as we have been, seeking as many initiatives outside the security zone and not wait to be hit again and again.

[Essing] Mr. Netanyahu, former Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has charged that some IDF generals are playing politics and are actually blindly—what he said—they are blindly following Prime Minister Rabin to a national disaster. Would you go that far?

[Netanyahu] Well, I would say that I'm very concerned with the direction of the defense establishment led by the defense minister. I think that he is deluding himself that he has agreements that he doesn't have, that he has an understanding that he doesn't have. What he has to do is change his policies immediately, and it's the responsibility first of the political level, and not of the military level. That means doing two things: number one, directing the military to seize the initiative, to be bold and to act, and, secondly, it means seizing the initiative on the political level, as well, and demanding in a clear-cut way that Syria cease and desist Hizballah terror, which it supports and can stop. That should be the item on the agenda and that alone. And until that is resolved, I don't think there is any point on the part of the prime minister to pretend that there is a peace process going on, because you cannot reconcile peace with the wanton attacks on Israel and Israeli soldiers.

Further, I think that the prime minister should accept the fact that he has made a mistake, a big mistake, in signalling to Syria, while it attacks us through its proxy Hizballah, that they would be rewarded no less a price than the Golan Heights. He should withdraw that offer that was made time and again to Syria, and make it clear that there is one item on the agenda right now, and that is peace for Galilee. [end recording]

### Ministers, Weizman Reject Criticism

*TA2208114893 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1100 GMT 22 Aug 93*

[Text] At today's cabinet session, all the ministers unanimously supported the criticism that was leveled by Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin against the leaders of the opposition.

Rabin claimed that the opposition leaders had dragged the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] into the political debate. Minister Moshe Shahal said that former prime minister Yitzhaq Shamir had spoken out of blind hatred. Minister Ya'ir Tzaban accused the opposition leaders of seeking to undermine the democratic foundations of the state. Minister Ya'aqov Tzur said that the statements made by the opposition leaders stemmed from the fear that the present government was close to scoring achievements in the peace process. Minister Yosi Sarid said that to all intents and purposes, Yitzhaq Shamir had practically called on the IDF not to obey the political echelon. Sarid asserted that the former Likud prime minister sounded like an ousted African dictator who was now seeking the military's backing in order to regain power. Minister Mikha Harish said that the remarks made by Yitzhaq Shamir and Refa'el Eytan were an example of sheer wickedness and callousness toward the bereaved families.

Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the ministers presented the chief of staff and the head of the IDF's Intelligence Branch with tough questions regarding the details of last week's fatal incidents in south Lebanon.

Our correspondent also notes that the cabinet approved the list of settlements that will receive special individual treatment within the framework of the Sheves plan for the reclassification of areas of national priority.

President 'Ezer Weizman rejected the criticism leveled at the IDF's senior command by politicians who came from a military background. The president said that there were appropriate forums through which to criticize the Army. President Weizman told our correspondent Rina Matzliah that he was irritated by the tendency of politicians with military backgrounds to think that they were the best judges of what the IDF should do. He stressed that the peace process required certain constraints, and those political circles who were opposed to it should attack the political process itself and not the Army. Weizman praised the restraint shown by the IDF commanders in the wake of the criticism that was leveled against them. President Weizman met with the chief of staff this afternoon and heard details about the incidents in which nine IDF soldiers were killed.

### Gur Rules Out Broad Operation Against Hizballah

*TA2008190293 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1700 GMT 20 Aug 93*

[Text] Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Gur says the understandings [with regard to Lebanon] were limited from the start, and Israel did not think they meant an end to Hizballah attacks on Israeli soldiers. Reporter Alan Ben-'Ami asked Gur last night if the attacks would lead Israel to consider a new wide-scale operation against Hizballah.

[Begin recording] [Gur] Not at all. We are in a continuous unfortunate war against the Hizballah because of their ideology to chase us, not only from Lebanon, but from Israel. It's a tough war, and I am afraid that today was an example how much we have to pay for our liberty and for our sovereignty, but we are going to keep it.

[Ben-'Ami] When you say that you are going to keep it, this is going to entail what? Is it going to entail increased IDF [Israel Defense Forces] activities across the border, inside Lebanon?

[Gur] Of course, we cannot tell now what will be exactly done in the future because it depends on them. We don't have any reason for any aggression, and we are not looking for any aggression. But if we have to respond, we'll respond according to our calculations, to our considerations, in order to maintain quiet in the north and ensure that our citizens can live peacefully. And, accordingly, we shall choose the method, the system, the means, and the timing of operation.

[Ben-'Ami] There was a feeling in the wake of Operation Accountability that Israel and Syria had reached quite some firm understandings, one of them being that Syria would make some positive moves to curb guerrilla activity, terrorist activity, not only against Israel but perhaps, to a certain extent, within Lebanon. The Lebanese Army began deploying; people thought that this was with the encouragement of Syria, but it doesn't quite seem to have worked out that way though.

[Gur] I know that people thought about that understanding much more than it really was. We, in the Defense Ministry, we did not have any illusion about that, and we are very careful about that understanding. We know that, especially with Hizballah, things might be very fragile, and we are very careful about that. We did not have any expectations of the Syrians in the framework of that understanding, except that our settlements will be out-of-bounds for any Hizballah activity, which means that the Hizballah will not shoot at our settlements. Until now they did not shoot. So we can say that they kept that understanding. If they do not keep the understanding, we will have to reconsider the whole thing from the beginning. [end recording]

## Rabin Warns Syria To Restrain Hizballah

*TA2208173693 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1700 GMT 22 Aug 93*

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin has warned Syria that if it does not restrain the Hizballah organization in Lebanon, Israel will. The prime minister told the weekly cabinet meeting that he had conveyed this message to Damascus in his telephone conversation with U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher over the weekend. Steve Linde reports:

[Begin recording] [Linde] Chief of Staff Ehud Baraq and Intelligence chief Uri Saguy briefed the cabinet on the situation in south Lebanon, including the Hizballah attacks last Thursday that killed nine Israeli soldiers. Prime Minister Rabin said he had asked the United States to put political pressure on Syria to curb Hizballah attacks against Israel, but Housing Minister Binyamin Ben- Eli'ezer, a former IDF [Israel Defense Forces] general, said Israel would continue to hit at Hizballah.

[Ben-Eli'ezer] There is no way to forgive Hizballah, there is no way. The only thing to do is we have to continue to hit the Hizballah every place and everywhere, but to do it in a way not to involve civilians, not involve innocents.

[Linde] Environment Minister Yosi Sarid dismissed reports that Israel was being restrained in its response to Hizballah attacks.

[Sarid] We are not talking about restraint. On the contrary, I would like to remind you that just two weeks passed since the very major operation in Lebanon took place. So there is no basis whatsoever to talk about restraint. [passage omitted] [end recording]

## Syria Talks Not Linked To Hizballah

*TA2208165493 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1600 GMT 22 Aug 93*

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin said that we cannot tie the continuation of the peace talks to a demand that Syria cease aiding Hizballah. He said that the previous government also knew that if such a condition were made there would not be any peace talks. Rabin said it is possible to say emphatically now that the agreements reached in the wake of Operation Accountability led to results, since there has been no Katyusha shelling of the Galilee. The prime minister said the most striking and dangerous phenomenon lately has been Khomeyniite terrorism's takeover of the Middle East . This has happened mainly in Lebanon and is marked in the territories. The assassination attempt of the Egyptian interior minister is part of that phenomenon. Mr. Rabin made the remarks in the cabinet, and they were brought to us by our correspondent Hayim Hecht.

## Commentary: Security Zone Withdrawal 'Only Option'

*TA2208114593 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 22 Aug 93 pp 29, 32*

[Commentary by Ran Edelist: "Their Struggle Against the Mosquitoes"]

[Text] Every long-term problem tends to become a reality we are doomed to live with. Every ad hoc solution for such a problem tends to become a concept. On Yom Kippur 1973, we received a package containing a similar problem—political deadlock (the Arabs do not want peace) and an IDF [Israel Defense Forces] concept of how to solve it—we will sit on the bank of the Suez Canal and the Arabs will not dare cross. After paying the price for this concept, with thousands of fatalities and casualties, it is clear today that the problem never existed and its solution solved nothing.

Today we are presented with a similar package, this time in Lebanon. The known political element is that the Syrians insist on allowing the Hizballah attacks. The IDF solution is the security zone.

Nevertheless, the solution that will secure peace for the Galilee, the existence of the State of Israel, and the lives of soldiers is not to be found in south Lebanon. It exists in Tel Aviv, at the IDF General Staff compound, to be precise. The order to immediately and unilaterally evacuate the security zone should originate there. The blind followers of the concept that the security zone secures Israel's northern settlement will maintain that this is a dreadful solution, not to mention the humiliation of a withdrawal. This, however, is precisely how those believing in the Suez Canal concept reacted in 1973 when they decided to pull back from the canal and create a new reality that would break through the political impasse and prevent an Egyptian attack.

So, here again we find ourselves confined to a militaristic thinking pattern, characteristic of Refa'el Eytan, Ari'el Sharon, and Binyamin Netanyahu. Instead of conducting the struggle for the state's existence on army versus army level, between two states, it is being conducted on the company commander and military governor level: seize a hilltop and stay in control.

The 1982 plan to fight the PLO by conquering Beirut has been replaced by a no less stupid plan: Fighting Hizballah by harassing a quarter of a million people—sending them on a march to Beirut—and fighting Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] by conquering Nabulus. Beirut was not the PLO capital in 1982 just as it is not the Hizballah capital today, just as Nabulus is not the Hamas capital. Anyone seeking political achievements through military operations—forcing the PLO, Hamas, or Hizballah into making an arrangement—should give them a capital and an army. Thus, we will have someone to talk to and things to talk about. Currently, Iran does not create reality, it only profits from it.

Allowing the current combat against Hizballah or Hamas to become the leading struggle is political and military stupidity. Only people who are blinded by a concept could continue waging such futile wars. We do not even have a slim chance of winning the war against terror. Even those who fight it today know this. Whoever invests such great efforts in fighting terror, must assume that Hamas is a threat to our very existence and that the security zone is a cornerstone of our defense thinking. In the future, Hamas might head the Islamic camp threatening to eliminate the entire West, us included. Today, however, it is a police, not a military, problem. Fighting it requires a beefed-up police force and Shin Bet's intelligence services, at the expense of the Air Force resources. In our dealings with Hizballah, the security zone is not a cornerstone; it is a stumbling block. If we want to solve the problem, we must get out of there. Period.

Our current conceptual blindness is part of the heritage the Likud government has left us: Political deadlock; peace moves with self-neutralizing devices built into them; and mainly a right-wing hysteria, with an apocalyptic aspect. The real goal is to sustain Greater Israel, and everything else is a mere derivative. This includes magnifying our worst and most threatening enemies—Hizballah and Hamas terrorists—out of proportion. This prepared the public for the concept of 100 years of terror—forecasted by [former prime minister's antiterror adviser] Rafi Eytan—laying the ground for a prolonged, though futile, struggle against terror. Hence, instead of being a police and Shin Bet problem, terror has become a national problem and the IDF was assigned the task of solving it. Furthermore, instead of going after the Iraqi nuclear potential, which is a real and big threat to Israel and West, the Mosad was also tasked with chasing terrorists, along with everybody else. This starts a vicious circle: Once you raise a small-time thief to the level of a dangerous criminal, you have magnified both the thief and the threat he poses. Suddenly, we are fighting Hizballah and Hamas as if they are a real threat to our existence. Suddenly, the security zone protects the residents of the Galilee. This is how we lost nine men last week.

In 1983-84, discussions were held regarding the size of the security zone. In practice, we were thrown out of Beirut and the al-Shuf mountains in disgrace. Then, the terrorists included Amal and Junblatt's Druze as well. They had the dubious honor of being under Israel's occupation, which automatically made them terrorists. It is not certain, but it may well be that Ehud Baraq, then head of the IDF Intelligence Branch, mentioned the possibility of returning to the border fence and handing over the security zone to the SLA [South Lebanese Army] and Syrian patronage. The Intelligence Branch Research Department wise guys said: What? Should we personally hand the Syrians yet another border with us, by which they will hold us by the throat? Naturally, they were not politicians; they were soldiers. Soldiers usually obey orders from the establishment, even when the orders are under the surface—like concepts. At the time, Baraq gave in. Perhaps he lacked the power; perhaps he was not sure of himself; perhaps he wanted to be chief of staff. There is no reason, however, why today's Chief of Staff Baraq should not opt for this move—unless he wants to be prime minister, in which case we shall have to wait, and pay the price in the meantime.

The only option to solve the Lebanese mess is a unilateral withdrawal from the security zone. Unlike the situation in 1982, when Syrian control was not all that clear, the Lebanese partner is much more stable today. It is far more stable than the Christian-Maronite government which relied on the IDF troops on the one hand and on hashish plantations on the other. Today in Lebanon, there is relatively close cooperation between Basil al-Asad, Hafiz al-Asad's son; the al-Hariri government; and the Americans. An Israeli pullout from south Lebanon will not leave a vacuum because Israel has goods to offer, and the other side has things to buy. We will not only be giving territory, but also an army (the SLA). Wanting both, the other side will take charge of the territory, whether it likes it or not. The deal will then be very clear: One Katyusha hits Qiryat Shemona and we raid Beirut, and not some village in the security zone. This might happen a couple of times before everyone learn the hard way, the Middle Eastern way, how to

behave. Fighting for its life, Hizballah might launch attacks during the transitional period, only this time it will be facing a head-on clash with the Lebanese Army, a Syrian accounting, and an Israeli reaction that will be freer than it is under the current agreement with Christopher. Then, we will be fighting against a state, not against a terror organization, as we are today.

## Negotiations With Syria, Palestinians Updated

*TA2208084793 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 22 Aug 93 pp 1, 2*

[Report by Drora Perl in Washington, DAVAR's political correspondent, and news agencies]

[Excerpt] The hiatus in the peace talks between Israel and Syria is a crime. This is how a senior political source yesterday described the break between the visit to the region by U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher at the beginning of August and the resumption of the talks on 31 August.

The source pointed out that contrary to the Israeli-Palestinian dialogue—which is held on various levels, not only in the framework of the Washington talks, and on an ongoing basis—the contact with Syria depends on the U.S. determination and readiness to employ a shuttle policy.

The political source stressed that the American link has become more important, particularly in view of mounting tension in the security zone in Lebanon after last week's terror attack.

Following the telephone conversations Christopher held with Prime Minister Rabin and Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' over the weekend, political sources seemed positive about the contacts between the United States and Syria regarding the situation in Lebanon. They stressed that in the past, the Syrians had refused to discuss events in Lebanon with the United States.

[Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew on 22 August carries a pool report on page A1, adding: "Senior Jerusalem sources have noted that in choosing the targets for the Air Force raids last Thursday [19 August], mainly the raid on the targets at Ba'labakk, which is under Syrian control, Israel was relaying a message to Syria that it is not pleased with the Syrian indifference regarding Hizballah activity. According to the sources, Israel definitely believes that Damascus has the power to control Hizballah."]

Israel is currently offering the Palestinians near-complete empowerment over the Gaza Strip in more than the five fields of operation it had offered in the previous round of talks. In the unofficial contacts between Israel and the Palestinians recently, a willingness was expressed to implement self-government in the Gaza Strip, including all the components of the interim agreement, without waiting.

Political sources yesterday maintained that the Palestinians may withdraw their demand that the Allenby Bridge be included in Greater Jericho, which is a part of the idea of Gaza-plus-Jericho First. [passage omitted]

## Sources Said Satisfied With Nuclear Weapons Initiative

*TA2308112493 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 23 Aug 93 p A1*

[Report by defense affairs correspondent Aluf Ben]

[Excerpts] Next month, U.S. President Bill Clinton will publish his new initiative to stop the international proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. The representatives of various governments, including Israel, have been briefed on the principles of this initiative in recent weeks. [passage omitted]

Israeli sources have expressed satisfaction with Clinton's new initiative, as presented to Israeli representatives. The sources noted that the Bush Administration had not bothered to consult with Israel before publishing its Middle East arms control initiative in May 1991. The sources asserted that the fact that the United States briefed Israel on the details of the Clinton initiative constitutes an indication of the positive change in relations between the two countries.

The Israeli sources said that Israel was not mentioned in the initiative, adding that Clinton would not present Israel with any direct demands.

The sources claimed that the U.S. demand for an unlimited extension of the NPT [Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty], with the participation of all countries, was not specifically directed against Israel, which is one of the few countries not to have signed the NPT. Nevertheless, Assistant Secretary of State Robert Gallucci said that Israel had to join the treaty.

The sources stressed that the United States had held no negotiations with Israel over the Clinton initiative; however, U.S. officials had discussed its details with Ambassador Itamar Rabinovich and senior Israeli Embassy officials.

Israel will apparently support the agreement on halting nuclear tests, in accordance with its long-standing policy to ban such testing, while coordinating its positions with the United States. Israel is already a signatory to the partial agreement to ban nuclear tests (LTB) [Limited Test Ban].

## 'New Details' on King Husayn Assassination Attempt

*JN2208125893 Amman SHIHAN in Arabic 21-27 Aug 93 p 5*

[By Nidal Mansur]

[Text] What is the true story behind the attempt to assassinate the king? What is the Liberation Party's relationship with everything that is taking place? Why did the government remain silent for over three months? Will the trial, which is expected to start early next month, reveal a scenario similar to the story of the Muhammad's Army and the Islamic Mobilization groups, as political opposition activists expect? Is there a relationship between the hot events in Jordan, such as the dissolution of the parliament and the amendment of the electoral law, and the assassination story?

Many rumors and stories were circulated among political circles and people. Some released detainees point the finger at security authorities. They say that the story was fabricated and that what happened to them was staged. As for the defendants' relatives, they stated that the defendants were tortured. Meanwhile, the government said—through a responsible source late in April—that the security authorities managed to uncover a plan to assassinate his majesty the king during a graduation ceremony at Mu'ath University. The ceremony was to have been held under his patronage in June.

The official source disclosed that the security authorities managed to arrest six military students who were to commit the crime. After interrogation, it has been discovered that the Liberation Party was behind the operation.

However, the details of the assassination attempt remain vague, as the security departments have not disclosed any details. The trial is expected to yield unexpected surprises.

A veteran attorney told SHIHAN that an indictment list is now ready. However, Muhannad Hijazi, the second assistant to the military public prosecutor and the public prosecutor at the State Security Court, told SHIHAN that the indictment list has not been prepared yet.

Hijazi related to SHIHAN new details, most important of which is that the Mu'tah military defendants tried to assassinate the king twice. The first time was during last year's graduation ceremony. At that time, the Liberation Party recruited defendant Muhammad 'Awdah 'Askar, a military student at Mu'tah University. He was charged with carrying out the attempt during the graduation ceremony. However, 'Askar did not pass the examinations. Having failed in two courses, he could not attend the ceremony. Thus, the first attempt failed.

Hijazi says that defendant 'Askar is a young, misled man and that the Liberation Party convinced him of its ideology, which considers "the Jordanian regime a nonbelieving regime because it does not rule in accordance with what God has revealed...and that according to Islam, a nonbeliever should be killed. Therefore, the regime must be changed by killing its leader."

Continuing to explain the assassination plot, Hijazi says that defendant 'Askar recruited five other military students, who were later entrusted with carrying out the second assassination attempt during the graduation ceremony which was held this June.

He indicated that the military defendants who had been assigned to carry out the second assassination attempt are Husayn al-Jidi, Basil al-Zughul, Fu'ad Judayfat, Sulayman al-Zuyud, and Ziyad al- 'Abdallat. According to the plan, two 9-mm pistols were to be used to carry out the assassination. The pistols were to be delivered to them by the command of the Liberation Party, which was in touch with the defendants.

He explained that the attempt was to have been made during his majesty the king's review of the column of graduates. He was to be fired at by two pistols from two different positions, while the rest of the defendants would provide the required cover so that the operation would not fail.

Hijazi indicated that the Liberation Party's command convinced those students that the moment the assassination operation was carried out, the party's elements would control the state's sensitive installations, such as the radio and television buildings and the royal palaces. However, the security departments were tipped off to the assassination plot. The first defendant was arrested and subsequent arrests were made.

Hijazi denied that a mercury-tipped bayonet was to be used in the the assassination attempt.

He said that the pistols were to be delivered to the defendants in buses, and that the pistols were to be hidden in special pockets inside the defendants' graduation uniforms.

Hijazi announced that the defendants are charged with taking part in a plot against the life of his majesty the king and with joining an illegal organization, the Liberation Party, which calls for revolting against and toppling the regime, as well as for carrying out sabotage acts.

Hijazi revealed that there are two fugitive civilian defendants: Walid Shahin and Yusuf al-Sabatin. In addition, there are other civilian defendants who are in custody in connection with the case: Isma'il al-Wahwah and Hilal Shammut. All these defendants are affiliated with the Liberation Party.

The case will be referred to the State Security Court by the middle of this week. The fugitive defendants will then be given 10 days to turn themselves in, after which, the court sessions will begin—that is to say by the beginning of next month.

Hijazi said that all the defendants in this case, who were held in the General Intelligence Department, were sent to the military jail on 8 August.

Hijazi stressed that he had reinterrogated them and had taken their statements. He added that he had informed them that they can request that lawyers be assigned to them. However, they freely admitted that they were deceived by the Liberation Party.

Hijazi made no link between the arrest of 'Ata al-Rashtah, the Liberation Party official spokesman, and party leader Salim al- Khawalidah on one hand and the assassination attempt on the other. He added that they have nothing to do with the attempt on the king's life. He noted that the defendants were fond of Khalid al-Islambuli, who killed [Egyptian president] al-Sadat. He added that the Liberation Party supplied the defendants with stories on the assassination of al-Sadat.

It seems that the official story divulged by Hijazi is very different from the details given by the parents of the detainees. Those parents say their sons were tortured and were forced to make false statements.

Jihad Judayfat, one of those released after three months in custody, said that he was forced to make a testimony against defendant Sulayman al-Zuyud in exchange for becoming a witness in the case. He noted that the security organs promised him that a general pardon wwpold be issued very soon. He also expressed surprise at being charged with the attempt on the king's life. He said that he only learned about this from the papers and that his first charge was for joining the Repudiation and Renunciation Group.

SHIHAN learned that the parents of some of the detainees met with party leaders and former deputies last Tuesday and asked them to save their sons from the injustice to which they are being exposed and to help them meet his majesty the king in order to acquaint the king with the full truth.

It is certain that a committee will be formed to defend the defendants in the attempt on the king's life. The committee will be comprised of lawyers Jawad Yunus, Salim al-Zu'bi, Salih al-Zu'bi, and 'Abd-al-Karim al-Dughmi

Hijazi told SHIHAN that lawyers presented powers of attorney to defend some defendants.

In a statement to SHIHAN, Attorney Jawad Yunus said that so far he has not been acquainted with the case and that by the beginning of this week the defense panel will have authorization to defend the defendants. Yunus did not hesitate to say that "in light of what was said by the parents of the defendants and some of those who were released, most of the case is fabricated and seeks to terrorize others." He recalled that the case of the Islamic Mobilization Group sought to tame the House of Representatives.

Opposition politicians said that this delicate and serious case seeks to divert the attention from dissolving the Parliament and from amending the Election Law. They said that public opinion will be preoccupied with this case and the trial and that the elections and the related procedures will be left behind.

Observers believe that regardless of the importance and sensitivity of the issue it will not receive the concern and interaction received by the Islamic Mobilization issue. They say that now that the State Security Court Law has been endorsed by the Parliament, the ruling of the State Security Court can be challenged at the Court of Cassation which is staffed by civilian judges. This, they say, will reduce the fears which in the past were caused by the State Security Court.

### King Addresses Press on New Election Law

*JN1908163693 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1500 GMT 19 aug 93*

[Remarks by King Husayn to the "press and media community" at the Royal Hashemite Court in Amman on 19 August—recorded]

[Text] Your are welcome in this house—the Jordanians' house. I am happy to have the opportunity to meet with you. The press and media have a major role to play; yours are onerous responsibilities. I have always made it a point to be in constant touch with the people and brothers who are shouldering responsibilites at this stage of our journey to the future. We nurture fervent high hopes that we will be able to tackle challenges, driven by a keenness to do our duty by future generations.

It is important that we get together in order for me to listen to you and answer any questions or queries you may have. More important, though, is for our lines of communication to remain open under these circumstances—communication that we have always sought to nurture and will continue to develop in the future.

Awareness and knowledge of the finer points will help you better fulfill your tasks. We are aware of our responsibilities in that direction. You are comrades on a long march. We take pride in our bonds of brotherhood. We sincerely hope our goals and objectives will materialize, or at any rate, that we will have the satisfaction that we have given our all in all kinds of circumstances.

Recently, we have taken measures affecting the homeland and its march, after a long dialogue. All points of view were aired on all fronts. The result has been that we should move, and so we endorsed a government proposal to amend the election law, which will be put before the next house of parliament for approval. The circumstances are now such that all the citizens of this benevolont land, which is graced by martyres' tombs and our forefathers' traditions, now enjoy the equal right to cast their ballots for the new house, as provided for in the Constitution, as I pointed out in my letter to the prime minister of the first government to deal with this house during its four-year tenure.

I was indeed worried by this issue, because I was heedless of it. [sentence as heard] But I thought it must be

redressed. So the issue is not new, as some people have tried to portray it. The only motive behind it is our concern to perform our duty. When we find a mistake or a situation that warrants amending, then we should perform our duty and bear our responsibilities to it.

As is known, the question was then raised. Perhaps, some parties raised this question even before it was discussed by competent quarters. The question took some time, then a measure was taken, which, I believe, serves our interests at this stage of the process of democracy in this country. If there is talk about the fact that it is a provisional law, well, the fact is that the law which brought the former House of Representatives was also provisional. We could need a third provisional law at a later stage, since we are developing and reacting to current realities. I cannot possibly say that everything is one hundred percent perfect. However, we always seek to attain what is better. We are certainly resolved to safeguard democracy in this country and proceed toward pluralism. We respect and abide by the Constitution. We have our National Charter, which unites everybody and defines the features of the road. We have blessed the National Charter. Everybody endorsed it and decided to abide by it at a large national conference.

In this country, moreover, we have succeeded in concentrating on our Jordanian individual, on his importance and worth, and the fact that he should realize that we are seeking to give him his rights so he can play his role and participate in bearing the responsibility of drawing the features of the road to the future; so he can live as a human being and we can protect his humanity; and so he can make further efforts. We always think of our Jordanian individual. It is not a matter of symbols referred to from time to time. Our Jordanian individual should be aware of his importance and worth when he casts his vote to elect someone to represent him.

Our success in this march, I believe, goes beyond this small spot of the universe, even though it occupies the heart of this great nation. Our country has held its ground, thanks to everybody's efforts, awareness, and dedication.

This success may represent, and it should represent, the best alternative in our effort to present the best model for our relatives and brothers. Our failure, God forbid, means we are disappointing ourselves and our nation. This is something we cannot bear or think about at all.

We are really and honestly concerned about democracy, political pluralism, and respect for human rights in this country. We all should face any attempts to harm this march by some people, under the cover of being concerned about it. Recently, I remembered the 1950's. Frankly, I was concerned that there might be disturbing signs about the possibility of a repetition of the practices that led to the faltering of a march in which we have faith, that we have supported, and had great hopes for its success at that time.

Circumstances have changed, but it seems to me that we should be careful because many people do not want this experiment to succeed and do not want this march to achieve its objectives. Naturally, the march has not achieved its objective, because it is a very long march. Our objective is to play our role in these circumstances, and to enable future generations to carry the message and to go on until they reach, God willing, the great achievement, which is something that we may not be able to realize.

We are talking about a nation, including its past, history, presence, suffering, the dangers it is facing, the challenges facing it, and the hopes I believe live in the minds of the great majority of the people in our greater homeland, and also in their hearts, and consciences. We hope, God willing, that our actions at every stage will reflect the image of the Arab conscience regarding our current situation, and concerning the nation's future situation, God willing.

The main task is to complete the process of building a pan-Arab, democratic Jordan, and also to propose the reactivation and formulation of the plan of the Arab Revolt in a new nucleus and in an understandable logic, inspired by the situation we are experiencing throughout the greater homeland. This is also required by our duty. Otherwise, how can we justify our existence if we are not determined to rise up to the level of our hopes and to perform our duty.

I assure you that we have no objective other than serving the generations that will come after us concerning their right and future situation. We always seek to satisfy our conscience and to please almighty God in order to grant us success. We owe the coming generations a right to work and to give them everything we can. We beseech almighty God to grant us all success. We seek God's blessings to pursue our march.

We need a clear vision more than at any time in the past. We need resolution, awareness, sincerity, faithfulness, genuine sacrifice, thought, and enriched thought. The objective is to have an Arab awakening. Of course, we should start with ourselves to serve these good people from various origins and to achieve what we can concerning the model homeland and the healthy situation in the greater homeland and the one nation. You have a very great role to play. I was concerned to have a meeting on such a level. God willing, meetings will be expanded in the future. I leave it to you to ask any question or to make any comment. You are welcome in your house.

### King Responds to Questions

*JN2008162193*

[Editorial Report] Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic at 1730 GMT on 19 August carries a 106-minute recording of the "proceedings" of King Husayn's meeting with the "press and media community" at the Royal Hashemite Court in Amman on 19 August in which the King addresses the press on issues such as the

forthcoming elections, the amended Elections Law, the peace process, and other topical issues.

After addressing the members of the press on the newly amended Election Law, and explaining why it was adopted, King Husayn says he is ready to answer questions from the audience.

The first question is from SAWT AL-SHA'B Chief Editor Hashim Khuraysat who, after praising the king's decision on amending the Election Law, asks the king whether he intends to remedy the other gaps and loopholes in the law.

The king responds by saying: "At this stage, our concern was in making the minimum possible amendments. We took care to focus on only one fault that had been discovered in the past. The constitution is clear on the issue of equality among the citizens in this country in terms of rights and obligations. The question is not about giving one voter greater privileges than another voter in another location in our country. In my speech, I also mentioned that the political turmoil in the region is not over yet. From this premise, I felt that it was our duty to wait and see what the future holds. Above all, and keeping in mind the current state of affairs, we should take care to remedy the neglected parts of this homeland, so that we can attain equality among all in terms of what the state and all of us provide so that they reach a satisfactory level.

"Future realities, and experiences from our march, may force us to reassess the situation in order to improve the situation and move forward. As an example, I believe that the circumstances are not propitious, or it is not the appropriate time, to discuss the issue of Jordanian citizens abroad and their right to vote. The circumstances are not yet ripe to find a mechanism for this operation. However, this issue should be tackled in the future. Perhaps, in the future, the question of those in the Armed Forces will be discussed. They should be able to exercise this right that belongs to every citizen. When they are in military service, they are forbidden from exercising this right, but if they leave the Armed Forces they can exercise their right to vote. This could be studied at a later stage. All of you know why this is so."

King Husayn continues: "You all know that in the beginning, particularly in the fifties when matters were not in our hands and not in the hands of the people of this country, there was an impression or a feeling that there was pressure on some to adopt a certain course, or a course that was not in line with parliamentary life in Jordan. Of course, this is no longer the case, and has not been so for a long time. What I want to say is that there are loopholes, as you have mentioned, there are many things that should be addressed. What we have succeeded in doing at this stage has been achieved through this new law, with the hope that we will continue to carry out improvements in the coming stages. At every stage, some kind of reassessment should be made on what has taken place along the path we have chosen."

Referring to national dialogue, the king says: "We want a fraternal dialogue to help us rise to the necessary level, a level where the dialogue has real meaning, a dialogue that does not divide, but rather unites us through conviction, and one that reaches consensus on what is better. We believed that the time had come to make a decision. Thanks to God, the decision was made. We hope that, within our limits and potential at this stage, this will be a long stride on the road to tackling what is awaiting us.

"I believe that, in order for matters to settle down in the manner we wish, we must address the question of this rush that obstructs our progress. We have spoken about this before. I am confident here too that from their experience, the people in this country will find that they need to move toward better organization, that ideas and projects need be put forth—projects that the people are concerned about and that they will discuss and adopt. Then, we can move from a situation where there are too many political movements to a stage of coordination and understanding. Thus, we will have fewer groups within the family to which we belong, but each will have more influence. This might take us four years to attain. Perhaps we will need eight or 12 years to reach such a stage. This is the course we have chosen. We must safeguard it, and we will protect it, with God's help and the determination of all. We will always carry out improvements."

Next to speak were journalists Samir Habashinah, Khayri Mansur, Musa al-Kilani, and economic columnist Fahd al-Fanik, respectively, all of whom supported the new electoral law, with the last specifically asking where Jordan stands on confederation with a Palestinian state, suggesting that unity with a yet-to-be-established Palestinian state populated by a stateless people might prove a threat to Jordan. The king says: "With reference to what my brothers have said so far, I hope our dialogue will continue. Incidentally, this tape recording is only for our internal purposes only. It might be aired. This is because I prefer to be frank. I am always frank with my brothers who, I feel, that, along with myself, are taking on huge responsibilities toward the present and future generations".

Continuing, King Husayn says: "This march has enemies. There are those who fear it and its potential implications. There are those who do not understand what it is about. We are for all Arabs and for all that may have a stabilizing impact on our Arab nation across the Arab world. We want the Arab world to see its issues resolved and its different parts brought together so the Arab nation can regain its right to life and its stature. We cannot live the lie of complete support for our policies. We are humans, each with their own opinion or position or view. What really matters is for us to respect one another and to instill in our generations the principle of dialogue. This is the means to get what is best without anger or nervousness, so each of us feels comfortable and happy being part of a united march that started on the heels of the global upheaval that has changed many things. We saw our Arab world threatened. We must move to prevent fragmentation and collapse. Maybe

some people around the world had ideas about this part of the world, given its geographical position and resources."

King Husayn adds: "We are dutybound to have the final say about our destinies and those of our future generations. The policy we opted for, on the other hand, does not favor any one in particular. Some leaders exercise their responsibilities as if they owned the Earth and all that walks and lives on it. Our option is quite different, aiming, as it does, at the individual and his worth and his right to life—his right to think and express himself and contribute to defining the outline of the future, and his right to err. We do not want the human being to be a pliable tool".

"The Great Arab Revolt may have experienced a lapse, and it was followed by trends and movements across the Arab world through which we lived and suffered," King Husyan states. "Thus it is important that we should think together. You have mentioned Jordan's contribution to a new pan-Arab agenda. I agree that we must concentrate on thought, dialogue, and formulas that come to terms with reality on the ground in the Arab world, where no single party should overwhelm another. Let us focus on how we get together and make the Arab individual the center of our attention as we have never done before. In other words, the silent majority ought to make itself felt and start a debate with important figures; alternatively it ought to push to the fore new, pure, and faithful leaders to take on the responsibility of planning for the future. Here in Jordan, we are neither with nor against anyone in particular. We are with the right of this people and this family to live. Our concern is that our march does not clash with any fossilized minds that cannot bear to see this march threaten their interests or those of other groups. In either case, they are minorities that want to overstep the limits set by the intellect and logic to create a backlash in order to pose a threat to this march."

King Husayn continues: "As for the issue of confederation is concerned, nothing has changed; rather, there is determination. I believe every one of us here in Jordan share my feeling that all of us here, in this Jordan, on this steadfast land, must be brothers in every sense of the word in order to confront our challenges. We must preserve, strengthen, and build our partnership and our national unity. It is our fate and our honor, and one of our many great responsibilities, to be brothers from many different origins and backgrounds.

"At the same time, we must state very clearly that we do not know how things will turn out, or if this will be a new starting point for the future. We are the closest people to Palestine, to this cause that we are linked to by responsibilities and duties. Responsibilities and duties that, we feel, have always dictated a certain course and line to us in order to serve our people and kinsfolk and their rights on their national soil. We have followed this course in all aspects, since the [Arab] revolt and until now, in and extension of the 'Umar [Ibn-al-Khattab] Jerusalem Covenant.

"We turned to the past, which we recently recalled and thought about. We found that, for example, in 1972, we proposed three alternatives that we felt must be left to the time when the people could exercise their right to choose in a climate of freedom. These included the discussion of the introduction of an entire constitution dealing with the form of a relationship that may be established between Jordan and Palestine, or Palestine and Jordan, when our brothers and kinfolk, the citizens of Palestine, regain their rights on their national soil. That relationship, if God wills and if all conditions are met at the right time, may provide a nucleus for a bigger thing as regards the greater Arab homeland.

"I think we should have provided you, as intellectuals and writers, with copies of that document, a copy of which we found just recently, for you to discuss. Arab unity is one of its objectives that we cannot, under any circumstance, relinquish the call and the quest to achieve. These formulas may be different than the ideas envisaged by our predecessor, since the Arab Revolt and until now. But it has always been, and will always remain an objective of every sincere, faithful Arab who belongs to this nation."

King Husayn adds: "So, when it comes to confederation, federation, or any other term, the ideas that were raised recently are within what we are prepared to discuss with our brothers, if they wish. We are prepared to discuss what was proposed in the past or what may come in the future.

"On the political level, the problem as I see it is as follows: Brothers of ours were able to take action after we provided them with the joint delegation umbrella, enabling citizens of Palestine to exercise their natural right to defend their land and our Palestinian Arab people and their rights. They moved with courage and daring in very difficult circumstances. The following condition came about: There are states negotiating over territories of theirs that have been occupied, or, as in the case of Lebanon, an Israeli presence on their territory. And, as regards the Palestinian track or the Palestinian dimension, and the brothers who have indeed moved with courage and daring, I observed they are worried about one thing, and they have the right to be worried. The same situation does not apply to everyone. The states have to deal with issues related to their occupied territory, as well as other issues. But as far as they [the Palestinians] are concerned, from the beginning the talks concerned discussion of a situation that would lead, in phases, to the final status, starting with a transitional phase. The question that I put to everyone in this world was: Where will this transitional phase lead? Toward what objective and what result are we moving, through a transitional phase, from the conditions we are in at the moment? There were no clear, frank, or satisfactory answers."

The King adds: "From the meetings and contacts we had with our brothers, I had the impression that they are worried that this transitional phase, and the shape in which it may be drawn up and agreed upon, may turn into a permanent phase. In conversations I had during my recent visits to states outside this region, I emphasized that these were real, justified worries, and that if

there were any way to determine the shape of the final solution, then this may help make progress and deal with these justified worries.

"This was one part of the question. We also had the question of Jerusalem. If we, the Arabs, talk about Jerusalem, the holy city, we recall the basis, the 'Umar [Ibn-Khattab] Covenant. We do not talk about it as Muslims, but as Muslims and Christians in terms of rights of all people to that city. Any formula that may materialize must not allow any party to dominate these sacred places. We cannot visualize an acceptable solution that can does not concentrate on the issue of Jerusalem to put things in the proper order.

"Jerusalem, after all, means different things and holds a different reality for every party talking about Jerusalem. For us, it means something. For Israel, it means something completely different. Greater Jerusalem is now one fifth of the West Bank. Those from outside the region who discuss Jerusalem may not understand the issue under discussion very well. So, it is wonderful to see some discussion to the effect that the citizens of Jerusalem can now exercise the right to vote for the commission that will assume the leadership in the Palestinian arena. But there must also be measures and guarantees to ensure that the changes to the Jerusalem we knew before 1967 will not continue, and will be stopped during the transitional phase and until we reach, or until the efforts by all parties reach, a final solution that can be accepted by future generations. Who is not searching for a just peace acceptable to all, which they can live under and protect, with the conviction that it is indeed a just peace?

"In our conversations with our brothers, we discussed reality. When the decision to sever [Jordan's legal and administrative] ties [with the West Bank] was made, we were responding to a Palestinian, Arab, and Islamic desire. And, in our discussions with everyone, we say this is an internal matter that concerns only the two of us. It never crossed our mind that any other party would benefit from it.

"Above all, and very frankly, I would like to say that what I have always called for is a climate in which we can deal with our problems and the challenges we are facing with the full confidence that we in Jordan have no other purpose or goal but to help our brothers and kinfolk arrive at their rights on their national soil and then choose what they want. We are the closest people to them."

King Husayn continues: "In these past circumstances and stages there was a climate of cooperation among the brothers. We were able to provide such an umbrella. We had to do so in order for the Palestinian side to shoulder its responsibilities and perform its duty with full support from us. What we have reached, what should be, is only the ideal situation that we should reach so we can confront this challenge.

"Our brothers may say they do not know many things about our situation. Our situation is clear. In terms of what has happened so far, with respect to what are being called talks, we reached a formula for the issues that should be discussed. We chose not to sign or commit ourselves definitively to this agenda until we see movement in the Palestinian dimension and see that it has arrived at something acceptable on the Palestinian and Arab levels. We proposed to have committees to discuss everything. We proposed true cooperation. We proposed a joint operations room that receives whatever new information there is, and tackles the requirements of any circumstance or moment in order to be able to secure the maximum benefit. So far, we are far from this vision we have in mind. I am not belittling the accomplishments achieved so far at the coordination meetings of the Arab foreign ministers. I found there was an atmosphere there—those of you who are outside the picture and are not well informed of its dimentions in terms of Arab dealing may be very surprised by what happened in these meetings. These meetings had much concentration, frankness, and positive talk which surpassed what preceded it on any other level in past years. This is encouraging, but so far it has not reach the required level. I hope that this answers your question, or are there any more questions?"

When asked by 'Umar 'Abandah, a journalist, if the Jordanian citizen will shoulder his responsibility and live up to his majesty's expectations when he votes on 8 November, the king responds: "This is what I totally expect. If I did not believe in our Jordanian citizen's ability to distinguish among the alternatives presented to him and to rise to the required level, I would have announced to you by now my failure concerning the 40 years I have spent among you and with you. I have great confidence in the Jordanian citizen and his maturity. I have great hopes that the Jordanian citizen will choose the best people for the honor and responsiblity of representing him in the next stage, God willing.

"Speaking of democracy, I would like to ask our brothers in the Press Association about the continuous slander against democracy, political freedom, and freedom of expression. How can we reconcile this and all the encroachments on many thing we should not have seen, whether by distorting this country's image or attacking someone? We have received our share of this. Is there democracy and freedom, or are there underhand dealings that cannot be allowed to continue?"

Sulayman al-Qudah, president of the Press Association, responds to King Husayn by noting that the press community is at the threshold of a new stage, just as the homeland is at the threshold of a new stage. He says organizations will stabilize, just as the king and the homeland wish. He reaffirms that the Jordanian press community will be nationalist and honorable, in the homeland's interest, with sincerity to the king as its primary concern.

Salih al-Qallab, a journalist, wonders about the fairness of the upcoming parliamentary elections. He comments:

Some people think the next Parliament will be domesticated, and will fall in line with the next political stage. The king says: "I accept this challenge, with every confidence that the upcoming elections will be as ideal as possible, and will be fair in every sense of the word. Jordan is open for everyone to see, to follow, and to criticize, if the criticisms are justified. These elections will be better than the previous elections in every sense of the word. This is my pledge, commitment, and stand."

Writer Khayri Mansuro praises King Husayn's initiative to meet with Jordanian journalists. Mansuro notes that some people outside Jordan, harmed by amending the Election Law, pose a greater threat than those harmed inside Jordan, Mansuro argues that those outside Jordan work away from censorship, adding that the Jordanian media should not focus on the election law while ignoring many Jordanian economic, political, cultural, and social problems. King Husayn responds: "Thank you, sir. I fully support you. We should exploit time and employ it for service, sacrifice, dialogue, and joint decisionmaking, and for drawing the features of the future and providing an example and model to follow. I also support you in that the frequently hot talk, which had been held until this decision was made two days ago, was given more priority than many other issues which should be tackled."

The king continues: "There were numerous positive aspects in the past four years, but there were negative aspects as well. In fact, I wished that there had been a discussion and assessment of that phase rather than a concentration on the issue of elections. We are committed to our course, in a way that we chose through democracy, freedom, awareness, justice, and human rights. I support you in that there must be advocates, students, family, and dialogue. This is the responsibility of the elite people. Challenge is facing all of you and all of us. We pray to God to grant us success, so we can rise up to the desired level. We should also try to achieve a balance securing the continuation of the march in terms of the various dimensions which need handling, and the problems we are experiencing. We should not only focus on theories, discussions, argument, and dialogue. Perhaps, we have thus far learned many lessons from our march. God willing, we will benefit better from these lessons in the future, so the march will be enhanced."

King Husayn continues: "As for the challenge you are talking about, I, along with my brother youths, also challenge you. Let us think deeply and write on all important things. Let us enrich this march with thinking, sacrifice, and truth instead of only focusing on the negative aspects. In other words, we should not have a pessimistic view about our situation. We will succeed. We should succeed. There is no other choice. We are not working for ourselves. We are working for the generations to come, under very serious and difficult circumstances. It is an honor for each Jordanian and each of us that this country is an abode for free men throughout the entire [Arab] homeland, including those who attempted to work in the past, those who visit us, those who hope that we will rise up to the level of this challenge. We should endure, work, and build. The results will be good, God willing."

The recording ends with a comment by writer Nabil al-Sharif, who commends King Husayn's policy of "responsible national dialogue" as the most important guarantee to safeguard the march. Al-Sharif also discusses the issue of freedom and responsibility in journalism and the encroachments which occurred in this regard, urging some restrictions on journalistic work, supporting the king's speech on amending the election law. He also supports the king's policy of safeguarding Jordan's national unity.

### Reaction to King's Speech on Election Law

*JN1908151693*

[Editorial Report] The three Amman Arabic dailies AL-DUSTUR, SAWT AL-SHA'B, and AL-RA'Y publish in their 18 August issues the full text of King Husayn's 17 August address in which he approved Jordan's amended Election Law. The three dailies highlight the king's remarks on the new law in banner headlines.

Editorializing on the king's speech under the headline "A Promise: We Will Not Disappoint the Leader", AL-RA'Y says: "His Majesty King Husayn addressed his family yesterday with all the sincerity he is known for, with all the concern which characterized his leadership and the homeland's march, and with all the love which made King Husayn a father, brother, friend, and a resort for everyone, and a just judge who gives us strength at moments of weakness, hope at times of despair, and confidence that enables us to surmount obstacles."

The paper adds: "A very few expressions in King Husayn's speech summarized what can fill pages or even books. When King Husayn addresses a fatherly, fraternal, and pan-Arab appeal to the Jordanians not to disappoint themselves or his majesty, everyone feels, and this is what we wish, that King Husayn is urging us to bring to the House of Representatives the best people among those known for their honesty, integrity, and pure loyalty to God and the homeland. If voters consider this and keep it in their minds, hearts, and consciences, our future House of Representative will certainly be a sincere, pure, and loyal house capable of protecting the homeland and serving the people and making sacrifices for their interests."

Expressing support for the king's amendment of the Election Law, the newspaper SAWT AL-SHA'B says in its editorial: "Just as the sons of our people had wished and hoped, the inspired leader of their march has responded to them and fulfilled their hopes and wishes by amending the Election Law in a way that guarantees equal opportunities for everyone."

AL-DUSTUR's editorial also supports King Husayn's endorsement of the new provisional law amending the Election Law.

In an article in AL-DUSTUR on pages 32, 24 under the headline "One-Man, One-Vote," Dr. Musa al-Kilani says: "Now, after a royal decree has been issued approving the new provisional Election Law which gives the voter the right to cast one vote to elect one candidate, the true Jordanian picture has become clear in terms of beauty and brightness. His majesty the king's decision enjoys a high degree of political courage which is only enjoyed by unique historical leaders."

In his "An Issue and Opinion" column in SAWT AL-SHA'B on page two, Salamah 'Ukur writes: "Blessed be the leader of the march, and blessed be the government which amended the Election Law to become a one-man, one vote law. This brave amendment has eliminated the most important constitutional disorder from which the previous election law suffered. Citizens now have equal opportunities. We have no doubt at all that this amended law will greatly contribute to enabling the Jordanian citizen to elect his representative to the legislative power carefully and freely."

'Ukur concludes: "Amending the law is undoubtedly a fair pioneering democratic step."

Amman's English-Language daily newspaper JORDAN TIMES of 18 August also reacts to King Husayn's amendment of the Election Law. JORDAN TIMES staff reporter Ayman al-Safadi writes a detailed report on changes to the Election Law.

In statements to Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic at 1100 GMT on 18 August, Senate Speaker al-Lawzi, Senator 'Akif al-Fayiz, and Minister of State for Legal Affairs Dr. Khalid al-Zu'bi expressed support for the new provisional law amending the Election Law.

Amman Radio Network in Arabic in its 1400 GMT news summary on 18 August reports a cable Senate Speaker Ahmad al-Lawzi sent to King Husayn voicing support for the decision to amend the Election Law.

Amman Radio Network in Arabic carries within its 1500 GMT regular newscast on 18 August recorded statements by Senate member Kamil al- Sha'ir, the president of the Lawyers Association, and the president of the Pharmacists Association, all voicing support to the decision. The Lawyers Association president says the shape of the election system is not important, but what is important is people's participation in the election. The Pharmacists Association president says he thinks most of the political parties in Jordan will participate in the elections.

Amman Radio Jordan Television Network in Arabic at 1700 GMT on 18 August interviews Senate President Ahmad al-Lawzi, a former Islamic chief justice, the dean of Jordan University's law faculty, as well as the AL-DUSTUR chief editor, and SAWT AL-SHA'B columnist Salamah 'Ukur. It also interviews ordinary citizens in the street, all of whom voice support for the amendment. Amman television adds that hundreds of cables have been sent to the Royal Hashemite Court by mayors, tribal chiefs, and public figures voicing support for the king's ratification of the amended Election Law.

The three Amman Arabic dailies AL-RA'Y, AL- DUSTUR, and SAWT AL-SHA'B in their 19 August issues continue to praise and highlight the amendment of the Election Law.

All three dailies carry on their front pages the same 800-word PETRA report detailing support by Jordanian figures and political parties of the Election Law amendment. AL-RA'Y reports on this under the following banner headline: "Popular Key Sectors Voice their Support for and Blessing of King Husayn's speech on Amendment of Election Law". AL-DUSTUR reports on this under the following headline: "Popular, Party, and Official Figures Voice Full Support for the Content of Al-Husayn's Speech".

The three dailies' editorials on 19 August also continue to praise King Husayn's speech. Under the headline: "Our People Will Not Disappoint Their Inspired Hashemite Leadership", the SAWT AL- SHA'B editorial says King Husayn "has shed light on the realities of the new era and the tasks Jordan has to assume, task that are difficult and need great maturity and effort, not to mention huge sacrifices from all ctizens." Concluding, the paper says: "The sons of our people should take care to interact with this inspired Hashemite leadership and the sons of our people should take care, too, not to disappoint themselves and their enlightened leadership."

Opinions on the Election Law amendment expressed in other columns and articles published in the 19 August issues of these three Arabic dailies range from the noncomittal to open praise of the king's decision. No columns or articles openly criticize the amendment.

A column by Muhammad Ibrahim Dawud in AL-DUSTUR on page 3 says: "The opponents or those who support the other opinion have failed in mobilizing a strong front against the amendment of the law. They now have two options: either to give in and participate in the elections in accordance with the amended law, or boycott the elections."

On page 13 of AL-DUSTUR, Ahmad al-Najdawi, deputy secretary general of the Jordanian Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, is interviewed on the amendment. He says: "The issuance of the Royal Decree amending the law has made us deal with it. We will participate in the forthcoming elections." Asked if the elections will be boycotted, al-Najdawi says: "I do not believe there is a serious intent to boycott the forthcoming legislative elections. Before the law was amended, the intention by the parties to boycott was there, but they said this as a pressure means. Following the issuance of the law, no one has an interest in boycotting."

Another column in AL-DUSTUR on page 29 by Hamadah al-Far'inah says: "The discussion has been settled and the decision has been made and the facts of

life and politics have taught us that the laws belong to those who issue them and reflect the balance of powers", adding that "those who are empowered to make decisions are those who can choose how to enact them in accordance with their concepts. This is the democratic game, and we have to accept it."

In another column in SAWT AL-SHA'B on page 4, columnist Ahmad al- Dabbas says: "Since the law has been issued and the one-man one- vote has become our democratic course to choose our representatives, this dictates that the voters exercise their constitutional right of choosing their representatives with extreme courage and fairness." Elsewhere in the same column, al-Dabbas adds that since the opposition parties have not announced "a clear and explicit stand on boycotting the elections, this means they will reorganize their cards and candidates to participate in the elections."

Columnist 'Abd-al-Rahim 'Umar, in a column on page 22 of AL-RA'Y, says he was against the one-man one-vote rule but that "since we initiated the process of dialogue on a democratic basis that respects the opinions of others, we accept this opinion, which has been enhanced by King Husayn's opinion." He adds that "for the sake of the homeland, and to elect a legislative council which will be qualified to assume the legislative authority's responsibilities in the best possible manner, to safeguard democracy, and not to disappoint Jordan or our nation, we must respond to the call, the call of duty and carry out our duty by participating in the elections."

### Arab League Chief, al-Hariri Leave for Damascus

*NC2108133393 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0845 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Text] Prime Minister Rafiq al-Hariri and Arab League Secretary General 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid left Beirut Airport for Damascus at 1110 today. The Syrian capital is the first stage of their planned Arab tour to discuss ways of implementing the Arab foreign ministers' resolution to extend financial assistance to Lebanon to compensate for its losses during the recent Israeli assaults in the south. 'Abd-al-Majid arrived in Beirut from Cairo on board Prime Minister al-Hariri's private plane at 1030 today. He was accompanied by Ambassadors Ahmad 'Adil and Mahyub al-Mahyubi.

Speaking to correspondents at the airport, 'Abd-al-Majid said he hopes the tour will be fruitful and that he does not want an escalation of the security incidents in the south because it would hurt the peace process.

[Begin recording] ['Abd-al-Majid] Today we are beginning this multistage tour. It is being conducted in line with the Arab foreign ministers' resolution passed during their meeting in Damascus to give aid to Lebanon and do everything possible to mitigate the effects of the Israeli aggression against the south. Certainly we hope that this trip will bear fruit. I am happy to be making this tour with Prime Minister al-Hariri. We will make all possible efforts to achieve its objectives.

[Unidentified correspondent] An envoy sent by you has made preliminary visits to the Arab countries. How responsive were those countries to the call to assist Lebanon?

['Abd-al-Majid] We took care to send an Arab League special representative to prepare for our tour. He carried messages from me to the Arab leaders. I believe that the response has been favorable. It was a good preparation for the trip that we are beginning today.

[Correspondent] One last question, Your Excellency. It is feared that a new Israeli aggression will be carried out after the outstanding operation that the national resistance has carried out in the south, leaving nine enemy troops dead. What is your view of the situation?

['Abd-al-Majid] Of course we are careful that no escalation of the situation should occur. The citizens of the south suffered enough during the recent Israeli aggression. We hope that the peace process will continue and that we can achieve stability in this sensitive region.

### Information Minister: Resistance Will Continue

*NC2108113693 Cairo Voice of the Arabs in Arabic 0510 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Telephone interview with Information Minister Michel Samahah in Beirut by Ashraf 'Abd-al-'Aziz in Cairo, on the "Dialogue From Afar" program; date not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] ['Abd-al-'Aziz] Welcome to the Voice of the Arabs.

[Samahah] Thank you.

['Abd-al-'Aziz] Mr. Minister, could you explain the situation in southern Lebanon in light of the current tension there?

[Samahah] The occupation of Lebanese territory is continuing and the Lebanese people are standing fast and resisting the occupation. This is the situation in southern Lebanon.

['Abd-al-'Aziz] There are reports of an Israeli military buildup along the dividing line in southern Lebanon. What is the significance of this?

[Samahah] Whether Israeli mobilizations grow or diminish, they are occurring on an occupied Lebanese territory. If they are meant to undermine our unity, spirit, or resistance of the occupation, it should be known that Israel has done this many times and has carried out several acts of aggression, the latest two weeks ago. However, all this did not work, and it will not work. If the occupiers want to do something useful, they can help achieve a full, unconditional withdrawal from southern Lebanon pursuant to Resolution 425.

['Abd-al-'Aziz] Mr. Minister, Israel violated the agreement that was signed after the Israeli aggression against southern Lebanon about two weeks ago. What is Lebanon doing to confront such Israeli violations of the truce agreement?

[Samahah] To begin with, no cease-fire agreement was signed with Israel. Some verbal arrangements were made, through the Americans, to stop the fire. There is not any written or signed agreement. The Lebanese resistance in southern Lebanon is carried out by a people on their land against an Israeli occupation. This is a legitimate right that the Lebanese will continue to exercise as a duty. As Lebanese, our resistance will not be stopped by the occupier Israeli Army, the military buildup, or any threats. [passage omitted]

['Abd-al-'Aziz] Minister Michel Samahah: In light of this atmosphere in southern Lebanon, do you expect Israel to launch a revenge operation against the positions of the Lebanese resistance in retaliation for the killing of nine Israeli soldiers the day before yesterday?

[Samahah] Where were those soldiers killed? They were killed on Lebanese territory. I want to ask the world and the United Nations, especially his excellency the UN secretary general, who rushed to send condolences on their death: Where were they killed? They were killed on Lebanese territory, which they occupy. They can survive and live peacefully if they return to where they come from and if the occupation of our land is halted. Those who occupy the Arab land and our Lebanese land will be received not with roses but with resistance, which, naturally, will cause fatalities. The resistance will continue until the occupation is removed.

['Abd-al-'Aziz] Does this mean that the resistance will continue as long as Israel occupies Lebanese territory?

[Samahah] No people with dignity refrain from resisting the occupiers of their land. It is natural for the resistance on the Lebanese territory to continue as long as the occupation lasts. [passage omitted]

## Minister: Resistance Effective Against Israel

*NC2108130193 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0845 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Text] Labor Minister 'Abdallah al-Amin has said that the cease-fire in the south was not reached on practical grounds that can enable us to say that the war is over. He explained that no agreement was reached that included cease-fire clauses.

He added that it is impossible to conclude a cease-fire agreement before Israel withdraws from the south, pointing out that the resistance operations will continue because they are effective against the Israeli Government.

In an interview with Radio Free Lebanon's "Dialogue With an Official" program, al-Amin said that the operation in Shihin proved to the resistance that this type of operation is more effective against Israel than Katyusha attacks. It also demonstrated to Israel that the only way it can guarantee its security is by withdrawal.

Speaking of the recent Lebanese-Syrian summit, al-Amin stressed that it was held to show solidarity with Lebanon. He explained that solidarity with the resistance needs no summit and that Lebanese officials and the public never opposed assistance to the it and that a decision was made to back the resistance.

Regarding the peace negotiations, al-Amin said: So far we have not seen any signs that these negotiations will result in a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict. Unless U.S. performance in the next stage changes, the negotiations will not bring peace.

He said he believes that the Israeli military operation in the south was designed to hinder the negotiations, especially as Israel had begun to feel that the U.S. stance would put more pressure on it in the next round of talks. He pointed out that a similar military operation might ruin the negotiations.

Al-Amin added: If the U.S. role continues to be limited to recording the positions of the various parties, the next round of negotiations will yield no results.

Commenting on a recent campaign by Chamber of Deputies Deputy Speaker Elie al-Firzili against the president, al-Amin said that President al-Hirawi has done all he can for Lebanon and at times has tried to do more. He expressed astonishment at al-Firzili's campaign, saying: The al-Ta'if accord specified the president's powers. No one can encroach on them.

He explained that the al-Ta'if accord was not a solution but an interim settlement on the way toward a final solution in Lebanon, which will be the establishment of a nonsectarian, democratic system.

## Hizballah Officials Vow Continuation of Resistance

*NC2108072893 Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic 0530 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Text] Hizballah Deputy Secretary General Shaykh Na'im Qasim has stated: We will lie in wait for the usurper enemy occupying our land and feel free to use the appropriate means and time for any response. He said the initiative remains in the hands of the resistance, which will use it at the suitable time and in a suitable manner.

Shaykh Qasim told the BBC that the resistance, along with its people, is stronger and more dignified now despite the wounds and pain. If the Israelis believed that pressure on the people would drive them to pressure the resistance, they should know that whenever the people are pressured over the honorable resistance they grow more determined to defend their rights, dignity, and the resistance.

It is natural, he said, that the Zionist aggression would cause some pain and bitterness among our people, but our social solidarity is healing these wounds. He noted the project to rebuild all damaged houses through the Construction Jihad establishment in cooperation with the citizens.

For his part, Hizballah Shura Member Shaykh Muhammad Yazbik has stressed that the Islamic resistance is a legitimate, legal, and ethical right. It is the reaction to the arrogance of the Zionists and the United States, he said.

Speaking during the funeral of martyrs Najah Amhaz and Hasan 'Abd-al-Husayn, Shaykh Yazbik said that the time for surrender and humiliation is gone and that all of us are ready for martyrdom, rejecting the life of humiliation and slavery to the Zionists. Shaykh Yazbik said the recent jihad operation carried out by the heroes of the Islamic Resistance is a gift to all the persecuted and oppressed on the anniversary of the al-Aqsa Mosque arson. He stressed that resistance operations will continue as long as a single inch of our land is under occupation.

## Fadlallah on Resistance, Israeli-U.S. Aims

*NC2108193593 Shanayh Voice of the Mountain in Arabic 1310 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Interview with 'Allamah Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah by correspondent Khalid al-'Ali; place and date not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [Al-'Ali] We start with the south. Two or three weeks have passed since the Israeli

aggression against the south and western al-Biqa'. A study today of the aggression and its objectives, both what has been achieved and what not achieved, might help us analyze it. Can we hear your analysis?

[Fadlallah] If we want to study the major objective laid down by Israel for its aggression, we see that Israel—with the United States behind it—has achieved nothing of this objective. The objective was to stop the Katyushas from being fired on the Jewish settlements in the occupied parts of Palestine and to disarm Hizballah. We know that no decision has been made to stop firing the Katyushas because this issue is linked to the Israeli aggression against civilians and not to the Islamic resistance movement. Therefore, when the aggression against the civilians was halted, the firing of Katyushas was naturally stopped, just as a reaction stops when the action is stopped. As to disarming Hizballah, Israel did not seek it militarily since such an action would have required a land invasion, and this did not happen. Israel tried to achieve it politically by creating popular turmoil around the Lebanese Government so that the latter would be compelled to take such a measure, as it did with the Palestinians in the past.

But Israel and all those who follow the regional and international political game in the region know that conditions are not conducive for the Lebanese Government to disarm Hizballah. This means that it was not an Israeli objective but mere words voiced in order to create certain regional, international, and local turbulence.

Like every similar Israeli aggression in the history of Israeli aggressions against the south, the Israeli aggression was prompted by the Israeli-U.S. regional and international policy. As is Israel's custom, it prepares its future plans and waits for the right conditions to put these plans into action to serve some of its objectives. We know that the Labor government is facing a domestic situation inside Palestine, namely the Labor Party's weak management of the political situation, especially with regard to the negotiations; its weak management of Israel's security situation against the intifadah; and also of Israel's political stands on Israel's future issues, both in its relations with the United States and the way to deal with the Arab situation. [passage omitted]

There was also a U.S. objective from the aggression linked to the negotiations. The objective has several points.

The first point is the attempt to separate the Lebanese stand from the Syrian one as much as possible as the first step in the 1,000-mile U.S. effort to contain the Lebanese stand so that Syria will not have any role in it except a peripheral one as allowed by the United States. Naturally, this action required several measures, including that of an Israeli aggression against Lebanon which confronts Syria directly or indirectly on the basis that Syria supports the resistance, can be held responsible for the resistance, and that it exerts pressure on the official Lebanese political stand and therefore some Lebanese might raise this issue in one way or another and anti-Syrian circles might speak louder.

Israel has made more than one signal of this, including the attempt to bomb some Syrian positions.

The second point in the American-Israeli scheme—through their strategic alliance—was to put pressure on Syria to detach itself from the collective Arab approach to negotiations, so that it could take its own course regarding Golan, away from the Lebanese, Jordanian, and Palestinian courses. This is a demand America has been planning for. It might have been trying to interpret some Syrian statements, or to insinuate through its media that Syria had agreed to do that. This angered some Arab negotiators and made them talk negatively about the Syrian stance at times.

Therefore, the aggression sought to give Syria the impression that this aggression against Lebanon was only a sample of what might happen later if Syria insisted on the political comprehensiveness of its stand on the issue of peace; a thing that might trigger a Syrian-Israeli war [word indistinct] Lebanon. They wanted to give Syria the impression that the partial and symbolic shelling of Syrian positions might develop into a devastation of the Syrian positions in Lebanon.

The third point has to do with the reality of negotiations: to work to speed up negotiations. It was a threat to Arabs, the Palestinians included, that complicating negotiations would cause a multifaceted war that might rage even inside the West Bank and Gaza in a manner different from that represented in the confrontation with the intifadah. What has deterred Israel until now was the absence of an American green light to use force in a scorched earth policy. But once America gives the green light, as was the case in destroying Lebanon, the war can be the fire that cooks the Israeli- Palestinian project and all other Arab projects. Christopher's statement during his visit to the region confirmed this point.

These are the major points that may explain the Israeli aggression within the American-Israeli circle. If we want to pick some minor points within this bigger circle of points, we may talk about schemes to cause sedition in Lebanon, even politically, to ruin the national unity many people were talking about, harm the reconstruction activity and tourism in Lebanon—Arab tourists from the Gulf started to come to Lebanon this summer—or complicate political conditions for Hizballah and the resistance.

We think that these goals did not achieve much, except for speeding up negotiations. We think that the fire that burned in Lebanon as a result of the Israeli aggression has rescued the 11th round of negotiations. I am not saying that the situation made it difficult to hold the 11th round, because since the end of the 10th round and with the talk about a dead end, we have known that Arabs did not talk negatively about the 11th round. They talked about the need for American intervention and for providing favorable conditions to guarantee the success

of the 11th round. After all, Arabs do not dare abstain from taking part in negotiations, because they do not want to be caught obstructing negotiations and showing Israel to be a state of peace, as suggested by America. Hence, Arabs are forced to continue with these negotiations regardless of the circumstances and the results. We know that the American goal is to keep negotiations going, regardless of the results. America has set a certain timing for results; when the time comes, America may deliver the knockout blow by seeking the issuance of resolutions in its own way.

Therefore, we believe that this aggressive war has succeeded in speeding up the 11th round and in giving America the role which Arabs have been trying to see America play, even if only in appearance. Christopher began to talk about the full-partner role, one who appeared to put pressure on Israel to cease fire, thus rendering a service to Arabs. We know from information available to us that Israel had to cease fire during the later days of the aggression, because the Israeli game had started to be obvious to the world public. The Western press had started to use a different language from that used early in the aggression. America, as well, needed to cease fire, because it looked like it was encouraging the enemy's prime minister to force the Lebanese out of their land, as his notorious statement indicated. America would not let such a thing be attributed to it, because it sponsored and endorsed that war.

We know that America and Israel were desperate to obtain a cease-fire. They were eager to achieve this end in their talks with Syria. This war, in its details and the subsequent search for a cease-fire, enabled America to pose as a good guy, so to speak. It also helped the Arabs save face ahead of the 11th round of talks. The Arabs succeeded in obtaining from America a position which, according to some Arab officials, proves that America does not see eye to eye with Israel and that U.S. interests are in conflict with Israel's. This was something that the Arabs were too eager to present as a gain.

In my opinion, however, this matter cannot be taken seriously. The political reality in the area and the ongoing Arab-Israeli talks do not leave much room for a U.S.-Israeli conflict of interests. It all boils down to a good-cop-bad-cop routine. The Arabs were simply too happy to take in the merest insinuation and slightest glimmer because they were desperate to portray themselves as politically viable.

The problem is that the Arabs are hopelessly weak, so they clutch at straws and hope to stay afloat.

[Al-Alfi] Probably one of the results of the aggression was intended beforehand, a part of a written script. Namely, that the Army would deploy in those areas in the south under the control of the UN Interim Force in Lebanon [UNIFIL]. Initially, everyone welcomed this move. But soon afterward, even before the Syrian objection to the step became known, many suspected that the move was ill-advised and does not serve the interests of either Syria or Lebanon. The question is, why did the Army, or those who are behind it, press for such a move?

[Fadlallah] When we look at the Lebanese political scene, we find several forces in play. There are some who want to benefit from the Army's deployment. This group of people depicts that deployment as a normal affair and one that has, at least sentimentally, a popular backing. This group of people aspires to pose as champions of the popular cause. It points out that the others have destroyed the south and that there is a chance to rebuild it. It claims that others have undermined the security of the south and that there is a chance to consolidate this security. This is the sort of domestic machinations we see today.

There is another trend that went on behind the scenes, one that concerns some politicians within the Lebanese Government. We know full well that a number of senior political figures within the Lebanese Government are totally opposed to the resistance. They plan, work, and pray for any opportunity to undermine the resistance and to foil its objectives. This group has Arab and international backing and plays on domestic political fears, particularly if these fears have to do with the country's top national objectives.

The common belief, within this group of officials, is that the stronger the resistance is, the more it would expose the emptiness of the slogans that some people in the country raise about independence and sovereignty.

The people who think along these lines may have benefited from the popular sentiment favoring security at any expense. The public has a spontaneous wish for a comfortable security situation. This public wish, arising from despair that anything will be done to resolve the existing security problems, was fuelled by slogans to the effect that the Army will deploy in every part of Lebanon.

If we recall the U.S. and Israeli enthusiasm for the Army deployment in the UNIFIL area, which made the UN secretary general approve such a move, we may understand why some Lebanese officials were quick to bank on popular sentiment, the external political circumstances, and the fears they sought to exaggerate.

Many actually took these exaggerated fears at face value. That there is turmoil in the south, that the Army has prevented it, that further turmoil is imminent in the UNIFIL area, and that the Army will prevent it, were all taken as facts. The Army was depicted as a force that is active in preventing sedition at home and in crucial circumstances.

Maybe these people have noticed that Syria does not reject this. Some people try to read the Syrian role in their own way or circumvent the Syrian role and apologize later if it is rejected.

There is a third line in Lebanon that is trying to benefit from all the gaps that occur in Lebanon's political arena and is trying to exploit them to create confusion in the

Lebanese arena. We know that there are people who are trying to use the Army to serve their personal ambitions. Others are trying to destroy the Army's credibility and disrupt its unity. They are also trying to involve the Army in battles that do not concern it in order to serve their local and external political ambitions.

I have seen some people who jumped on the bandwagon of Army deployment in the south who had at other times taken a negative position toward the Army. I have observed the situation and I know that they are fully aware that this phase does not allow any action against the resistance, neither the Islamic nor national ones, and that the Army does not have the political conditions or military resources to undertake this step in this regional and international political situation. We know that there is a declared international rejection of the resistance, yet we do not believe that there is an international green light to clash with the resistance so that Lebanon is pushed into armed sedition. The international, regional, and local conditions of the Palestinian arena differ from the national Lebanese arena or that of the Islamic Lebanese.

Therefore all this mystic and vague talk about the Army, its deployment, the need for it to confront the situation boldly, and to use all its strength is meant to embarrass the Army before the people, to make it lose the people's trust, or to force the Army, as a result of incitement or because it has been pushed into a corner, into a battle that is not in its interest, at least not now. Hence, we believe that raising the issue of the Army deployment—without coordination with Syria as we noted afterwards, and as we know from the Syrian strategic stand toward the resistance in these conditions—was a Lebanese position. In this position, Lebanese politicians inside and outside the government tried to embark on an adventure which, they thought, might happen as a result of international pressure on the region.

But I believe that the results were not what they wanted. The Lebanese political position was surprised as never before. Many rushed to change their words and statements. The Army was deployed but it did so as an Army aware of its role and aware of the role of the resistance. The resistance showed it was aware of the Army's role too, and the two sides recalled that the Army had entered the resistance areas in Iqlim al-Tuffah and al-Nabatiyah and that no sedition occurred between the Army and the resistance and therefore it would be unnatural for sedition to take place between the Army and the resistance, given the present political conditions. Now, everyone feels that what they wanted from the Army deployment has not happened, either locally or regionally.

[Al-'Ali] There was talk that one of the objectives of the Army's deployment was to maintain security and eliminate a possible uprising. You had commented on this. But do you believe that there is a possibility that the Army might play a negative role, such as preparing for the security arrangements that are being talked about?

[Fadlallah] I believe that strengthening the Lebanese political position on the question of the negotiations, especially with coordination between the Lebanese and Syrian stands, will prevent any security arrangements before the negotiations reach decisive results, because the Lebanese negotiator—who has refused to enter into a military dialogue separate from the Lebanese political issues under discussion during the talks between Lebanon and Israel—continues to pursue the same line and refuses to do so.

[Al-'Ali] [Words indistinct] that the regime, or some parties in the regime, do not support the resistance while we hear all officials at all levels—in the Chamber of Deputies, the government, and the presidency—say that they support the resistance. In you view, how long could this duplicity continue?

[Fadlallah] This duplicity will continue as long as the political balance exists between Syria and Lebanon. If this balance is upset, then you will hear other things. A member of the Arab Parliamentary Union visited, with other members of the union, a senior official who spoke negatively about the resistance. This parliamentarian asked him: Aren't your territories occupied? He replied: Yes. He asked this senior official: Aren't these people resisting the occupation? He replied: Yes. He then asked: So what is negative? The official replied that they receive weapons and support from Iran. The parliamentarian told him: Isn't Israel getting support and weapons from the United States? Why is the one thing negative but the other isn't? The parliamentarian said that this official was speechless.

Talk behind closed doors differs from talk meant for public consumption. There are senior officials in this country who are trying not to annoy the U.S. ambassador or the U.S. President.

[Al-'Ali] We have started to hear talk in the Arab arena about positive results in the 11th round and that the matter is only waiting for some sort of Arab-Palestinian agreement so that these positive results can be announced. Do you believe that "positive results" could come from this round and within what context?

[Fadlallah] A quick reading of what is happening in the negotiating halls at this stage shows that the Palestinian problem is the main one and that all the other issues have arrived at some sort of positive results and there remain only details to be discussed. The strategic knot is the Palestinian one, the question of autonomy, of Jerusalem, geographical jurisdiction, the Palestinian state, etc. The conflict between Israel and the Palestinians is this: Israel is trying to give the Palestinians nothing except the role of the minority in the State of Israel and nothing else, while the Palestinians are seeking a state, any state, over what remains of Palestine.

There is another development, namely that the United States has started to talk about the occupied territories as disputed territories. Therefore, the Palestinians are in a very great predicament in that they cannot concede these

principles because conceding them means conceding the whole Palestinian cause. Hence, I believe that all the pressure is on the Palestinians. Some Arab countries are exerting pressures on the Palestinians in various ways. One of them is the Arab country that is more enthusiastic about Israel than some Israelis. It is the country where some of its former officials are saying that Israel was acting in self- defense when it committed aggression against Lebanon.

I am therefore worried by this ploy, which took place inside the PLO and the Palestinian leadership, namely that of the resignations, the threats of resignation, the retraction of the resignations, and the flexibility on the question of Jerusalem. I believe that the talks about great results in the 11th round is premature because you have to observe the effectiveness of the pressure on the Palestinians since there is no need to exert pressure on the other parties except on some minor details because the overall picture has become clear. We have seen this in the Israeli statements when Rabin spoke about painful concessions and about how the Golan is not a vital need for Israel's security, and so on.

[Al-'Ali] As is known, the Madrid conference coined the expression land-for-peace. On the eve of the 11th round, there is talk about a scenario such as Israel declaring its intention to withdraw from the Golan and the south in return for Syrian and Lebanese declarations of their intentions to be absolutely committed to peace, after which Israel, under U.S. sponsorship, would draw up the timetable for this withdrawal. Is there any information that such a thing might happen?

[Fadlallah] I believe that President al-Asad—based on his national pride and on his feeling of historic responsibility for the Arab situation—refuses to be involved in a partial measure at the expense of the Palestinian cause, even if he gains the Golan. Had he wanted to make concessions in return for the Golan, he could have made the concessions with [former Egyptian President] al-Sadat when the issue was easier. [passage omitted]

### Explains Limits on Katyusha Use

*NC2008170293 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 20 Aug 93*

[Text] Shaykh Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah affirmed today that Hizballah will not initiate firing Katyushas at northern Israel unless the Zionists resume their shelling of Lebanese civilians. In his Friday sermon, Shaykh Fadlallah praised the qualitative operation the mujahidin carried out yesterday. The mujahidin proved that using Katyushas is not their style. Katyushas are launched as a reaction to the shelling of civilians.

### Islamic Resistance Attacks SLA Position in Sujud

*NC2208062793 Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic 0530 GMT 22 Aug 93*

[Text] Islamic Resistance mujahidin yesterday evening attacked agent South Lebanese Army [SLA] Lahdist position in Tallat Sujud with rockets and machine guns, killing or injuring a number of the personnel manning the position. The enemy radio admitted the operation but claimed, as usual, that there were no casualties in the attack.

### Israeli Artillery Reinforcements Reported in South

*NC2208193093 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1900 GMT 22 Aug 93*

[Text] The Israeli invasion forces brought new artillery reinforcements into the occupied border area at dawn today. Security sources reported that six 155-mm guns crossed the border early today. These were the first reinforcements since nine Zionist soldiers were killed by the resistance fighters three days ago.

### Additional Guns Observed

*NC2308085093 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 23 Aug 93*

[Text] Our military correspondent reports that reinforcements have been brought to the border strip from northern Israel. He says seven 175-mm guns were brought to al-Majidiyah Garrison near Marj 'Uyun this morning. The range of this gun is 45 km.

## Lebanon's al-Hariri, Arab League Chief Begin Arab Tour

### Met by al-Zu'bi, al-Shar'

*JN2108114793 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1015 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Text] Lebanese Prime Minister Rafiq al-Hariri and Arab League Secretary General 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid arrived in Damascus at 1200 today, on the start of an Arab tour which will also take them to the Gulf Cooperation Council member states.

They were received at Damascus International Airport by Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi; Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar'; Interior Minister Muhammad Harbah; Minister of State for Presidential Affairs Wahib Fadil; and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Nasir Qaddur.

### Received by al-Asad

*JN2108143693 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1415 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received Lebanese Prime Minister Rafiq al-Hariri and Arab League Secretary General 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid at 1345 today.

Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi, and Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' attended the meeting. Talks dealt with the situation in the region, and the efforts made to implement the resolutions of the Arab League Council during its Damascus meeting on Lebanon.

### Khaddam Meets Arab League Chief

*JN2108191693 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1815 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Excerpts] President Hafiz al-Asad received Lebanese Prime Minister Rafiq al-Hariri and Arab League Secretary General 'Ismat 'Abd-Majid at 1345 today. [passage omitted]

Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam received Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid at 1930 today. The meeting was attended by Nasir Qaddur, minister of state for foreign affairs. Talks dealt with the Arab situation.

'Abd-al-Majid held a news conference at al-Rawdah Palace today attended by a crowd of journalists and correspondents of Arab and foreign television networks and newspapers.

Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid described the meeting today with President Hafiz al-Asad as extremely fruitful, fraternal, and positive. He said: We heard from his excellency an analysis on the general Arab situation. He added: We felt President al-Asad's full backing, understanding, and eagerness to bolster any efforts in support of Lebanon.

'Abd-al-Majid valued the support Syria extends to Lebanon. [passage omitted]

### 22 Aug Departure Noted

*JN2208134593 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0815 GMT 22 Aug 93*

[Text] Lebanese Prime Minister Rafiq al-Hariri and Arab League Secretary General Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid left Damascus this morning, concluding a one-day visit to Syria. During the visit, they met with President Hafiz al-Asad.

Al-Hariri and 'Abd-al-Majid were seen off at Damascus International Airport by Faruq al-Shar', the foreign minister; Nasir Qaddur, the minister of state for foreign affairs; and the Egyptian ambassador in Damascus. Their visit to Damascus was the first leg of an Arab tour, which also includes the Gulf Cooperation Council states. The purpose of this tour is to discuss ways to implement the Arab League Council resolution on Lebanon, which was passed during the Council's recent emergency session in Damascus.

## Higher Council Names al-Khuri Secretary General

*JN1808134693 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1115 GMT 18 Aug 93*

[Text] The Higher Council established in accordance with the Brotherhood, Cooperation, and Coordination Treaty between Syria and Lebanon met on 16 August 1993 in Damascus.

One of the decisions made in this meeting stipulates the following:

1. Mr. Nasri al-Khuri shall be appointed secretary general of the council.

2. Mr. Michel al-Murr, deputy prime minister of the Lebanese Cabinet, and Mr. Nasir Qaddur, Syrian minister of state for foreign affairs, shall be asked to prepare a draft to organize the General Secretariat, particularly to spell out all its bylaws and specialties, in addition to its staff and budget, in accordance with Paragraph C, Clause 6, Article 6 of the treaty. They shall do this in cooperation with the secretary general, provided all proposals and studies are finalized within a month and referred to the Higher Council to decide on them.

## Al-Zu'bi, Jordanian Minister Discuss Cooperation

*JN1808150293 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1115 GMT 18 Aug 93*

[Text] Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi received Jordanian Minister of Supply Radi Ibrahim at 1300 today. The meeting was attended by Nadim 'Akkash, minister of supply and internal trade.

Ibrahim conveyed the greetings of Jordanian Prime Minister Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali to Mahmud al-Zu'bi, who asked the Jordanian minister to return the greetings.

They discussed relations of cooperation between the two fraternal countries, especially regarding the exchange of commodities and materials and promoting coordination in the field of supply.

## Afghanistan

### Muslims Demonstrate at UN Mission Against Russian Shelling

*LD2208214993 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1730 GMT 22 Aug 93*

[Text] A large group of Afghan Muslims demonstrated in front of the UN mission in Kabul today to protest against the Russian shelling of Afghanistan's northern regions. According to a Central News Unit report, the people of Kabul were chanting anti-Russian slogans and asked the UN to act against the Russian and CIS shelling of the northern regions. During the recent CIS forces' attack a number of people were killed or wounded and thousands forced to flee their homes.

### Ministers Discuss Emergency Reconstruction Plans

*LD2208214893 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 22 Aug 93*

[Text] A cabinet meeting was held this morning at the Golkhana hall of the prime minister's department. It was chaired by esteemed engineer Qotboddin Helal, first deputy prime minister of the Islamic State of Afghanistan. During the meeting a series of economic and current political matters were discussed.

The prime minister's press department told the BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY that one item on the agenda of the meeting was a discussion of a draft strategy for the reconstruction of Afghanistan, entitled Emergency Plan, which has been prepared in nine volumes. It will be carried out in nine months with the cooperation of 34 Afghan experts and 58 specialists from UN Development Program departments, the UN Food and Agriculture Organization, the International Civil Aviation Organization, the International Labor Organization, the International Telecommunication Union, the UN Center for Human Settlements, UNESCO, the UN Industrial Development Organization, WHO, the UN Humanitarian Assistance Coordination Office for Afghanistan, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, the International Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the IMF, and [name indistinct]. The views and proposals of each member of the cabinet were heard and attentively assessed.

Explaining the emergency plan, Planning Minister esteemed Seyyed Mohammad 'Ali Javid added that in the draft of this program, which is expected to last two years, the existing scientific and experimental possibilities will be utilized. About $600 million has been envisaged for its implementation.

Considering the present important conditions, under which the revival of Afghanistan is counted among the first, the ministers approved the draft strategy for the reconstruction of Afghanistan after some changes had been introduced.

The importation and production of power energy in Afghanistan was then discussed. The ministers listened to a presentation by esteemed engineer Seyyed Mohammad Ayub, minister of water and power, on some proposals put forward by the Water and Power Ministry. Considering that an appropriate production of power supplies in the country is one of the main needs of the people of Afghanistan, the cabinet decided that the Ministry of Water and Power, in cooperation with relevant ministries, should embark upon an all-round study of the possibility of producing power from Afghanistan's water and gas resources, and should eliminate the problems Afghanistan's capital and provinces are having with lighting and fuel shortages in order that industrial plants can function.

The session set up a commission to arrange the purchase abroad of spare parts and necessary equipment for power stations, taking into consideration previous contracts in this regard. Immediate measures to [words indistinct] of Naghlu, (?Garamtal), and Pol-e Khomri were also deemed necessary.

The cabinet session discussed the problems of gardeners and fresh fruit traders from Kabul Province's districts and the Parwan Province and agreed to help the fresh fruit traders, who face problems of taxation along the Kabul-Jalalabad highway. The meeting decided that a commission should meet at the prime minister's department without delay and play an important role in carrying out this national and Islamic matter, which is of great national importance.

The commission will comprise influential representatives of farmers of Kabul Province and Parwan, with the cooperation of esteemed Sharafat from Hezb-e Eslami; esteemed Abdorrazaq, from Jamiat-e Eslami-e Afghanistan; esteemed Haji Gol Miya, from Harakat-e Enqelab-e Eslami-e Afghanistan; esteemed [name indistinct] from Harakat-e Eslami-e Afghanistan; esteemed General Eshaq Nuri from Mahaz-e Meli-e Afghanistan; esteemed Ajab Gol, from Jabha-e Nejat-e Meli-e Afghanistan; and esteemed commander Zekrya from Ettehad-e Eslami-e Afghanistan.

## India

### Rao Leaves for Bhutan on 2-Day Goodwill Visit

*BK2108034893 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Text] The prime minister, Mr. P.V. Narasimha Rao, has left for Bhutan on a two-day goodwill visit. This will be his first visit to that country as prime minister. During the visit, Mr. Rao will discuss with King Jigme Singye Wangchuk bilateral matters, the situation in the Indian subcontinent, and the recent developments of mutual interest. Our correspondent reports that the visit is in continuation of the tradition of close high-level contacts which have characterized relations between the two countries.

### Visit Aimed at Strengthening Ties

*BK2108044793 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Commentary by Indrajit Bahel]

[Text] The cordial and friendly relations that India has with Bhutan, a close neighbor, are based on the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation signed in 1949. There has been a tremendous upsurge in bilateral cooperation since Bhutan launched its first five year plan in 1961 and the two countries became partners in development. New Delhi has helped finance and create the basic infrastructure for the modernization and development of Bhutan.

The first three five-year plans of Bhutan were entirely financed by India. And of the total outlay of 950 crore rupees for the sixth five year plan, more than 300 crores came from the Government of India. The most glorious example of India's contribution to Bhutan's development is the 336-megawatt Chhukha hydel project built by India on a turnkey basis at the cost of 247 crore rupees. The project provides nearly 40 percent of Bhutan's national revenue and also supply India 300 megawatts of power. Encouraged by the success of the Chhukha project, the Government of Bhutan has now shown interest in the Chhukha phase two and phase three projects in the basin of the Wong Chu River. A memorandum of understanding for the preparation of the detailed project report for the Wong Chu projects was signed in November 1990.

India has also agreed after detailed discussions for a total aid package of 750 crore rupees for Bhutan's seventh plan. The major projects to be taken up by India during this plan are construction of roads and bridges, transmission lines, a hospital in (Mongai), a cement plant at (Manglam), and the Kuru Chu hydel project both in Eastern Bhutan, besides Chhukha two and three hydel projects. The 50-kilowatt Bhutan broadcasting station, the first in the country, has been set up in the capital Timbu, on a turnkey basis by All India Radio. The station was inaugurated in March 1991.

While there is a completely free trade regime between the two countries, there is also tremendous cooperation in the field of education and culture. A large number of Bhutanese students study in Indian schools and colleges while Bhutan's (Asuroxi) College is affiliated to Delhi University. King Jigme Singye Wangchuk of Bhutan has endowed a chair for Buddhist studies at Nagarjuna University in Andhra Pradesh.

An important factor in nurturing the close and friendly relations is the well-established tradition of frequent visits and exchanges of views between the king of Bhutan and the Indian leadership. The two-day goodwill visit to Bhutan by the prime minister, Mr. P.V. Narasimha Rao, beginning today is another milestone in that direction and will strengthen the close ties between the two countries besides deepening the understanding of each other.

### Rao To Pay Visits to China, South Korea in Sep

*BK2008125493 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1230 GMT 20 Aug 93*

[Text] The prime minister, Mr. Narasimha Rao, will pay official visits to China and the Republic of Korea from the 6th of next month. According to an official announcement in New Delhi today, he will be in China from 6th to the 9th and in Korea from the 9th to the 11th of next month. The visits are in response to the invitations by the Chinese prime minister and President Kim Yong-sam of the Republic of Korea. The six-day-long visit will provide an opportunity to Mr. Narasimha Rao to exchange views on bilateral, regional, and international issues of mutual interest with the leaders of the two countries.

### Congress-I Defends Bill Preventing Misuse of Religion

*BK2108161893 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Text] The Congress-I has appealed to all secular parties to support the two bills seeking to prevent misuse of religion in politics. The party spokesman, Mr. V.N. Gadgil, told newsmen in New Delhi today that the whole dissent note of the BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] is based on deliberate misinterpretation of the bills. He said there is nothing in the bills which even remotely affects the constitutional guarantees and secular parties need not have any fear. He said the bill is politially salutary, constitutionally valid and culturally sound. Accusing the BJP of looking at the bill with jaundiced eyes, Mr. Gadgil said it is far-fetched to say that the bills will affect our culture.

In reply to a question, he said he does not [have] any apprehension about the support of secular parties to the bills.

### Janata Dal Chief Goes Into 'Self-Exile'

*BK2108162693 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Text] The Janata Dal leader, Mr. V.P. Singh, says his party has succeeded in setting the agenda of a social justice in the country. Talking to newsmen on the eve of his self-exile from Delhi, Mr. Singh demanded the implementation of Mandal Commission recommendations [on reservation of jobs for backward classes]. He said the aim of his party is not to change the government, but to change the ruling class. On the bill seeking to prevent the misuse of religion for political purposes, Mr. V.P. Singh said the Janata Dal is considering their implications and will take a united stand.

### Suspected Maoists Kill 3 Border Soldiers

*BK2308091993 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 23 Aug 93*

[Text] In Andhra Pradesh, three BSF jawans [Border Security Force soldiers] were shot dead by suspected People's War Group of Naxalites [Maoist militants] in Koitala village of Adilabad District yesterday. The state director general of police, Mr. T.S. Rao, told our Hyderabad correspondent that the incident occurred when the jawans were on patrol duty in forest areas. The bodies of the jawans are being taken to Hyderabad.

### Police Raid Busts Explosives Smuggling Ring

*BK2008043693 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 20 Aug 93*

[Text] The Gujarat Police have busted the notorious Dubai-based Dosa brothers gang allegedly involved in smuggling RDX explosives to India. The Baroda city police commissioner, Mr. Hira Lal, told newsmen that 14 members of the gang have been arrested in Surat and Baroda.

### Protests in Tamil Nadu Against New Delhi's Economic Policy

*BK1908152393 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1430 GMT 19 Aug 93*

[Text] In Tamil Nadu, about 25,000 persons were taken into custody from various parts of the state when they attempted to picket before the central government offices in protest against the economic policy of the Center. Later, all the arrested persons were released. In Pondicherry also about 750 activists were arrested today when they took out a procession to picket the Pondicherry legislative assembly as part of the nationwide agitation to protest against the new economic policy and price rise.

Members of left parties in the Lok Sabha today stalled the proceedings for about half an hour protesting against the lathi [baton] charge and detention of some their colleagues and workers while staging a demonstration against the economic policies of the government. Expressing regrets over the incident, the parliamentary affairs minister, Mr. V.C. Shukla, announced that the goverment is ordering an immediate inquiry.

## Iran

### Hashemi-Rafsanjani Delivers Friday Prayer Sermons

*LD2008134993 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Aug 93*

[First and second Friday prayers sermons by substitute Friday Imam President Hashemi-Rafsanjani in Tehran on 20 August—recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. [passage omitted] Both of my sermons today will be about the issues of the day and the country's current affairs. I do not see any opportunity to raise a separate issue in one of the sermons, as we normally do. In the first sermon, on the occasion of Government Week and the formation of the new cabinet, I will explain some issues; and in the second sermon we will discuss some of the many diverse domestic and international matters. [passage omitted]

In view of the fact that the government finished a term and a new term is about to begin, and the first five-year economic plan is coming to an end and we are on the threshold of a new five-year plan, no doubt our people are eager to receive some information in this connection and some analyses and judgement. I will mention a few points in this sermon and, God willing, during Government Week we will elaborate further on the issues that I will briefly give as topics here.

First, we must express our gratitude for the way the new cabinet was formed and the Majles' work speed, healthy environment, and a beautiful job done. I, as the responsible authority for the government, sincerely thank our Majles and our deputies. They dealt with the matter very well. Fortunately, the level of understanding was to such an extent, that this made the Majles debates constructive. Our people have heard the debates. I do not wish to discuss them further. The outcome of the debates was also very good. Twenty-two of the ministers gained a very high number of votes. Such high numbers were unprecedented in the post-revolution era. [passage omitted]

We lost a minister [Mohsen Nurbakhsh]. In my opinion, this was natural and was not planned in advance, for no one spoke against said minister in the Majles. He did not need any defense, either. Because nothing was said in his defense, whatever doubts the deputies had in their minds on his capabilities remained. As a result there were a large number of abstentions, and we lost one of our influential ministers from the cabinet list. In view of the fact that His Excellency has played a great role in compiling the second five-year plan and must continue this role, I asked him to help in the implementation phase as my vice president so that the process is not undermined. His Excellency accepted. Frankly we must thank the Majles for the style of its debates. As you witnessed during the entire debates for and against, no one opposed the plan and policies. If anything, the performance methods of some ministers were criticized, for which answers were given.

It is interesting that all of the analyses provided by the arrogance's news apparatus and the imperialist propaganda system who, after making all those predictions, found themselves off guard and trapped, proved to be very wrong. They therefore switched their attention to one minister who did not gain enough votes; he only needed four more votes, in fact. They then produced some very loose, superficial, and simplistic analyses, which can be classed as some of those typical Western analyses which even a cow is able to produce. They claimed that because the economic minister did not gain enough votes, the Majles was opposed to the government's economic policy. They did not even trouble themselves to listen to debates in the Majles to see that, out of more than 20 deputies who spoke, not one person was opposed to the policies of the first development plan and the economic policies. If something was mentioned, it merely concerned the method of implementation. As a matter of fact, no one expressed any opposition to the method of implementation adopted by the economic minister.

Fortunately, a good outcome was produced. Right now we have a cabinet that enjoys the Majles's substantial vote of support. We now have a harmonious cabinet. Of course, this does not mean that those ministers who are absent in the new cabinet were not in harmony with us. They had problems only with the Majles, not with the government and the president. These individuals will now be our experienced colleagues in other fields.

We recently convened the first cabinet session of the new government. The issues we placed on our agenda, and the comparison of this agenda with the one we had four years ago in the initial cabinet sessions of the previous government will convey a great deal of meaning. This very topic can form the focal point of my discussion and discourse in this sermon.

It is natural that the government normally places the key problems, urgent needs, and important issues in its work agenda. When you compare the type of debates we had four years ago in our cabinet session with what we have in our agenda today, you will witness a significant difference between the conditions present then and now. This comparison shows what we have gone during these four years, what new conditions we now face, and what has undergone change.

In those days our first worry was the issue of UN Resolution 598. That was a time when a large chunk of our territory was occupied by the Iraqis, and our POW's faced a bleak future. We did not know what to anticipate, and the horizon before us was an oblique one. International hostilities, and similar outside factors were causing us concern about the future of the Resolution. Today, however, we are celebrating our victory. We are joyful about the return of our proud POW's, the repelling of the enemy from the Islamic Republic territory, and the fact that Iraq was eventually termed the aggressor in the war against Iran. [crowd chants]

Naturally, within the government there is no longer any grounds for such discussions. Of domestic issues our first discussions those days were on the issue of transportation. We were worried about the beginning of the academic year and the transportation of children in Tehran and elsewhere, and in the whole country. Fortunately you see today that state transportation is totally normal; trucks are waiting more for their loads than loads waiting for trucks. This effective move in transportation has left no room for discussion.

Those days whenever we had a gathering we were worried about electricity being cut off and problems related to long-term lack of electricity. The industries would stop, the people's electrical appliances would develop shorts, and there were many incidents in those days. Today we do not discuss energy within the government at all because our electricity production in the peak consumption period, in the month of Tir [22 June to 22 July] when all cooling appliances are being used, during peak hours, is more than our consumption. Reserve capacity is also in hand, which will come on line soon. In the long years ahead the Islamic Republic will no longer have the problem of electricity shortages, and there will be secure energy unless an incident occurs: a pylon topples or a power plant comes off stream. Those will be compensated for through the extra capacity that has been envisaged.

In those days we were worried about the people's fuel for winter. Our fuel stores were empty and we had to import 300,000 barrels of oil products per day at high prices. Today, thanks be to God, all our fuel stores are full and almost all of our oil product requirements are being met internally, except a small amount that we began importing at the beginning of the year [Iranian year begins 21 March]. By the end of the year this quantity will no longer be needed, either. We have become self-sufficient even though the rate of fuel consumption has increased greatly in the last few years, because we have lifted rations.

At that time we had a nightmare concerning war refugees, destroyed houses, and ten totally ruined cities—12,000 villages disappeared from the face of the earth—and hundreds of devastated industries, ports, and power stations. Almost all of our big industries in gas, oil, and power had been destroyed. That was truly worrying for anyone who slightly understood statistics. He would think, O God, millions of refugees, ruined cities without water and electricity, and all that destruction in five provinces, the empty coffers and the people's vast expectations... [pauses] it was their right to expect. They had been refugees for eight years and now the guns were silent and they had to return. Today you have certainly been to Abadan, Khorramshahr, Qasr-e Shirin, Dehloran, Mehran, Bostan, and Musian—everywhere—or seen them in film reports. With what speed they have been reconstructed! The people have returned; normal life has come back; urban infrastructure is in place; and employment is ready. Truly the people's lives... [pauses] We are no longer concerned about reconstruction, but now its continuation. In the next few years the reconstruction file will be closed completely and you will see that we will have our cities alive again. All that big difference is because of our work.

The main worries for each and every one of you in the past concerned the empty market and goods—which if they existed were stashed away in warehouses—the prevalance of hoarding, two-tier prices, illegitimate channels, public assets, and goods finding their way into contraband routes. The main preoccupation of the law enforcement forces and the courts concerned the same issues and to arrest and try various people. There was no one in charge at all to produce or import thousands of different goods. It was all given up to fate because of the war effort. Today, however, there is no more discussion of that among us; the government does not discuss at all the means of supplying the people's requirements. The supply of goods has become normal; they are either produced or imported. Everything is so plentiful that our government's first discussion will be what to do with the goods that our producers, our factories have left on their hands, while they are in need of cash-flow [naqdinegi]. [passage omitted] A portion of this can be solved by preventing and restricting imports. Nevertheless, production has increased with such speed these past years that we have closed the file on discussing it. [passage omitted]

Half-paralyzed agriculture, livestock farming, poultry farming, and fisheries, which had all sustained substantial damage in connection with the Iran-Iraq war, developed swiftly and are bringing us close to the frontier of self-sufficiency. Silos are full of grain, such that wheat is being piled up outside the silos. All these topics are no longer the subject of discussion by the government. All discussion revolves around resolving the problem of left-over factory products; giving the manufacturers loans so that they can endure or somehow raise the consumer sector's purchase power.

At the same time that we were concerned with drawing up next year's budget... [pauses] budget deficit worried any economist and any one with some knowledge of economy. We had a 51 percent budget deficit. Such poverty, such an economic problem worries the whole community. Coupled with that, the plentiful money [naqdinegi] in the hands of the private sector and the lack of confidence in banks—so that people wished to keep their money in their homes rather than in banks—really tortured the person who sought to draw plans. We reduced the budget deficit to zero; bank cash-flow has speedily increased because of the confidence attracted; and the money in the hands of the people is controlled. One of the discussions of our government now is how to increase the cash-flow of producers. Their problem is a shortage of cash-flow. Those days the problem was the excess of private sector cash-flow; now just the contrary has occurred; conditions that you see for yourselves.

The first debate of our cabinet was at a time when we needed 6 million tonnes of steel and metals. It was estimated to be 6 million tonnes then, but was found to be less—of which we produced 1 million and had to

import 5 million. This is how it was. We used to import a great deal of various metals. But today the debate is on finding markets for our exports to support the great steel mills producing various types of steel, including sheets and building material, as well as other metal products. Of course, these items are not left in the factories, and they can and do now manage themselves really, when one thinks about things that have happened in the country in these four years. This is so much so that all the main problems that the country faced at that time are no longer an issue.

Of course, we are not without problems, but there are other problems that we have to resolve and that I will refer to now. One of the frightening problems that we had at the time was that of foreign currency. As I have said in my earlier discussions, all our goods were imported. Furthermore, all of the infrastructure that we had at the time, such as the power stations, dams, petrochemical complexes, investment for greater oil production, etc., all consumed foreign currency. Foreign currency stocks faced a difficult future, so much so that we identified $27 billion to be borrowed from abroad in the First Development Plan.

Today, however, we are on the verge of solving the last problems. Domestic production has replaced imports to such an extent that the country's foreign currency consumption has come down significantly. You will witness in the coming year that the country will have sufficient foreign trade surplus. Foreign currency income will be much more than today's standard need for foreign currency consumption. This is because there will no longer be steel imports, which was a leading cost. The big power stations—which were a major cost—have been built. Large petrochemical complexes—which consumed a great amount of foreign currency—have been built. We now produce many of the raw materials that we use for factories. We used to have 1 million tonnes of petrochemical products. We now have 5.5 million tonnes. This will reach 12 million tonnes in a year or two. These were the main foreign currency consumers. They will no longer be consuming foreign currency but will turn into export and foreign currency producing industries.

We have tried in all sectors, as far as possible, to provide raw materials for our production from wherever possible in the country. Imports in agriculture, husbandry, and in most sectors have decreased to a minimum and are decreasing daily. I can tell you that the shortage of foreign currency will no longer be a controversial issue in our future cabinet and in the Second Development Plan.

The only thing is the extent of our investment. The more we want to invest and the greater the project, in whatever sector, we will spend that much foreign currency. There will be no problems if we do not, because the major parts of the infrastructure have been completed. There are things that will improve conditions immensely if we do them. If we do not, conditions will remain the same and as usual. Of course, we cannot fail to do so because, for one thing, we have foreign currency income. Our exports—oil and non-oil—will be nearly $20 billion. This can be injected into the investments that continue to rely on rial investment, and there are many factors involved.

We have taken the support of government provided foreign currency away from many areas. All together, the vehicle sector—be it truck, bus, car, or trailers—is no longer feeding on government foreign currency. All are dependent on their own markets. They do what they can, and they manage themselves. We are no longer providing government foreign currency for the production of bulldozers, combine machines, loaders, and other heavy machinery. They have gone to follow their natural way and life.

We are now giving government foreign exchange to defense, medicine, basic goods—such as wheat, cooking oil, and rationed goods. We allocate government foreign exchange for these things by force. Everything else is at the free-market rate. This has been our most important achievement: the reform of the foreign exchange system. It was a government-controlled system according to which everything was procured by the government and distributed to the people according to quotas, in which people had to go through different (?channels). That was the greatest problem gripping our country's economy. Breaking this system apart was the greatest victory of the period that we have put behind us.

In the government's discussions—if anyone reads the records of the government's and the economic council's discussions—they will see how much of your country's time was taken up with issues of this kind, with small-scale issues. Of course, we still have cases like this, but much less.

Great portions of the investments we have made have now started to... [pauses] The relevant factories are beginning to come on line. We will be inaugurating 400 to 500 factories and industrial units during Government Week. These will produce tens of thousands of new jobs for our work force. The level of unemployment was nearly 16 percent; now it is closer to 10 to 11 percent. Reducing it by this amount is a great achievement, bearing in mind the growth in the number of our youth. Our universities are no longer experiencing difficulties. In those days, we used to have problems with regard to accommodations, cafeterias, the student transportation, and so on.

We have sent teachers to many villages where there used to be no schools or teachers. We have carried out many intensive programs in underprivileged villages to bring them health and medical services, roads, electricity, and so on. This will continue to form part of the second plan.

At any rate, let me say to you that, when your government meets these days, it is no longer concerned with day-to-day issues and immediate, annoying problems. It spends its time on fundamental issues. The second plan is being drawn up. I will not say anything about the second plan now, because it is something for which the policies and general aims have been determined. The

figures are now being inserted into the plan. When all this goes to the Majles and debates begin... [pauses] I believe that with the coordination that will exist between the government and the Majles, we will have a very good plan, to the disappointment of those of our enemies who wish to see conflict between the Majles and the government. God willing, the plan will emerge from our Majles. [crowd chants] Our nation is the hero. I am its weak servant. [passage omitted]

[Second sermon begins] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. [passage omitted]

There are several important occasions worth mentioning. I will link them together and speak briefly about them. We went through great, historical days during the past week: the anniversary of the demise of the great Prophet of Islam, the anniversaries of the martyrdom of two gracious imams—Imam Hasan Mojtaba and Imam Reza. Today is the anniversary of the Hegira, the day on which the noble prophet migrated from Mecca to Medina. We will have Unity Week in the near future to mark the auspicious birth anniversary of the noble prophet. [passage omitted]

This is also the anniversary of the victorious and pride-inspiring return of our POW's. The week also saw the tragic demise away from home of Ayatollah Sabezevari in noble Najaf. With regard to the sad demise of this eminent and resistant theologian—who safeguarded the great Najaf seminary during difficult circumstances and who is owed a great debt in Shiite history—I wish him God's eternal mercy and compassion, and I wish his relatives endurance.

We must do everything we can to preserve the greatness and honor of the Najaf seminary. It is no small place. It has affected a thousand years of history in the region between the two rivers, in Iraq and the whole area. And Shiism is heavily indebted to the efforts that have been made in that noble seminary. We can see that Iraqi Ba'thism is determined to weaken that seminary. Of course, it will be unable to do so. The majority of the Iraqi people will not allow that seminary to be lost. They will protect it. If the sun of that seminary has been somewhat overshadowed, it will no doubt shine once again.

I would stress that the weakening of that seminary is not even to the advantage of the Iraqi Ba'thists. Let them not forget that, on that day when Iraq was occupied by foreigners, it was the 'ulema of that seminary—Ayatollah Kashani and Ayatollah Khonsari and hundreds of young religious students—who came to the forefront and gave an important slap in the face to the British occupiers. They preserved the greatness of Iraq. God willing, the Ba'thists will not weaken this center of their greatness and independence for the sake of their mistaken prejudices.

Praise be to God, our POW's returned home with pride. They have achieved an outstanding record of resistance and honor. Today about 40,000 former POW's are working hard in various state departments. They are a great backing for the revolution and the country's reconstruction. They shine everywhere. We have tried to reduce the burden, which they and their families have had to shoulder as a result of their many years of captivity. Of course, the resources are limited, and there is a high demand. We hope to be able to perform this task in the best possible manner, to fully realize the rights of our devotees.

On the issue of prophetic mission and guardianship in Islam, which is the axis of other occasions this week, I will have a short but comprehensive discussion. I will try to do justice to everyone in this short discussion.

Today the Islamic ummah constitutes about one fourth of the world population. They live in more than 50 independent countries and possess a major part of the world's strategic resources and geographically strategic regions. However, the Islamic ummah's future—its prosperity and honor—depend on remaining loyal to Islam and the noble prophet and on remaining under the banner of Islam and the Koran. [crowd chants "God is great"]

The more it distances itself from this flag and this axis, the more it loses its honor and greatness. The more it comes closer to it, the more it will add to its greatness and wonder. Here the most fundamental issue may be cooperation, as well as restraint from division, duality, and from worthless racial, geographical, and political issues. If the Islamic world manages to create harmony on the basis of the Koran, and if it manages to understand the great Islamic teaching that we are a single ummah—if the leaders, 'ulema, great theologians, personalities, and the intellectual leaders of Islam understand this unity of the ummah—we would have many things in the world. But if the present conditions—with all its divisions, differences, selfishness, and materialism—that we have today continues, this spiritual food and this secret of unity and greatness will have little effect, as it has little effect now. [passage omitted]

The world, the arrogant world with all its glitter and power, would be helpless against a united Islamic ummah. Unfortunately, we do not have this. Today the divisive policy of the world arrogance—which has been dominant in the Islamic world for the past two or three centuries—continues to dominate. In many places, relations between the government and people are not good. In many regions, relations between the region's Islamic governments is not good. When we gather in the Islamic Conference, which is established for unity and coordination, we are deviated from following common aims because of selfishness and desires. You see the outcome. There is our Bosnia, where the most ruthless and most wicked historic crime is taking place in the name of a people who think they are civilized and progressive.

In Palestine, there is a half-century of tyranny whose innocent victims have always been the Muslims. Considering the weakness that exists in the world of Islam, we do not see a bright horizon for the future either. New problems have been created for us just these last few

days. In Caucasia, Muslims are under pressure and are fleeing from their homes in several areas. In Somalia, Muslims have attacked each other; then the soldiers of the infidels have come in the name of assistance and relief. They have taken control and are killing people instead of helping them. In Sudan, there is a tune of division of a nation and the dismemberment of the territory of an Islamic state.

In Afghanistan, we have witnessed the interference of foreigners and mischief that prevent that nation—which carried out the greatest Jihad in its history and brought that enormous, hellish, Marxist power to its knees... [pauses] So they are now beset by internal problems. We hope that disaster ends through the vigilance of their leaders. [passage omitted]

Our Kashmir is an area dripping blood. One really suffers to see people under so much pressure every day. Southern Lebanon is occupied. Its regime is Zionist, and the Muslims are being bombed in that way. Our Iraq has fallen into such a state that the planes of the world infidels have to fly over territory so that they can save one section of its people from the tyranny of another section. The decisionmaking for our Iraq, for our Mesopotamia—that great center that is able to be a great support [words indistinct] be in the world of Islam—should be in their hands.

Those problems have really come about through division. Unity, coordination, sympathy, and forbearance can solve all those problems.

In OPEC, the Muslims fight each other so that they can produce a few more barrels of oil. Those who have more want still more. Suddenly, their oil price falls by four or five dollars and the industrial countries lap it up and take it away.

In any case, the source of our greatness is Islam, and the specified path by the Koran is grasping God's rope [habl ol-lah]. We are distant from that edict of the Koran at the moment. The day we act on that edict, come near to it, and the world of Islam can see itself close to it, it can save itself that day. I have penned my Arabic sermon for the world of Islam on the same theme. [passage omitted]

### Government Rejects UN Criticism on Human Rights

*LD2208113293 Tehran IRNA in English 1058 GMT 22 Aug 93*

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 22, (IRNA)—The Islamic Republic on Sunday lashed out at a United Nations committee for calling on Iran to respect human rights.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Mahmud Mohammadi said that the U.N. committee whose duty is to supervise compliance with the International Convention on Political and Civil Rights has overstepped the limits by calling on Iran to observe human rights.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman accused the committee of abusing its power.

The Islamic Republic, which is one of the founders of Islamic human rights, does not accept the West's definition of human rights which is discriminatory, Mohammadi pointed out.

However, he said, the Islamic Republic which has it own method and principle of respecting man's natural and civil rights, will continue its cooperation with U.N.-affiliated committees.

### New Policy on Passports for Expatriates Announced

*LD2208160193 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 1430 GMT 22 Aug 93*

[Text] The first consular seminar of the Islamic Republic of Iran's diplomatic representatives abroad ended today after discussing for three days the consular problems faced by Iranians resident abroad. The seminar was held at the Foreign Ministry's premises in Tehran and was attended by consular officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran's diplomatic missions abroad and representatives from relevant organizations at home.

The seminar sought practical ways of eliminating the difficulties faced by Iranians abroad. It also discussed the question of establishing more coordination between the Islamic Republic of Iran's diplomatic missions and home organizations so as to arrive at a unified method of conducting consular affairs.

After the closing session, Mr. Manuchehr Mottaki, deputy for legal, consular, and parliamentary affairs at the Foreign Ministry, described the aims of this seminar. He said: Under the government's new policies, passports will be issued, in accordance with regulations, to Iranians resident abroad who do not possess passports. He added: All those who have faced difficulties in obtaining an Iranian passport because they left the country illegally or have been granted social [as heard] asylum or have obtained a passport from a foreign country can, from now on, go to the Islamic Republic of Iran's embassies and consulates, obtain Iranian passports, and return to this country.

Mr. Mottaki then spoke of the new facilities for the return of Iranians resident abroad. He said: During the past several months, over 2,000 applications have been sent to the capital. Thus far, over 1,625 Iranian passports have been issued, after the necessary checks, and the rest are being processed.

### Car Bomb Explodes in Tehran 22 Aug, Injures 4

*LD2308072093 Tehran IRNA in English 0452 GMT 23 Aug 93*

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 23, IRNA—Four people were injured when a sound bomb went up in a residential quarter in downtown Tehran early Monday.

The bomb, exploded at 00:15 hours local time (19:45 GMT Sunday) in a street near 'Shush' Square, in southern Tehran, damaged two cars and shattered windows of several nearby houses.

The bomb had been planted in a car and its explosion panicked the people who were deep asleep. Those injured were immediately transferred to hospital.

The law enforcement forces have already started search for the culprits.

### Tehran Seeks Extradition of German National

*LD2208092593 Hamburg DDP in German 0826 GMT 22 Aug 93*

[Text] Hamburg (DDP)—The Iranian Government has called for the extradition of a German national who sought refuge in the German Embassy in Tehran four weeks ago. The German Foreign Office confirmed that "a German national has been in the care of the embassy in Tehran for several weeks," Monday's edition of BILD newspaper reports. The specific details of Iran's accusations are not known to the Foreign Ministry, however, and so cannot be investigated, the ministry said.

According to the paper, Iran is accusing the German, Friedel-Peter S., [name as received] of deception in connection with arms deals. The man is said to have been arrested by the Iranian police as early as 5 July.

He succeeded, however, in visiting the embassy on some pretext. He is said to have been there since 28 July, the newspaper reports. The suspect is said to have conducted arms deals for the Muslims in Bosnia on behalf on the Iranian Government and thereby misappropriated funds.

### U.S. 'Atrophied' Foreign Policy Viewed

*NC2308104093 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 7 Aug 93 pp 1, 2*

[Editorial: "Repetitive Utterances in Washington's Atrophied Diplomacy"]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The U.S. representative in the United Nations, who is currently the head of the Security Council, has made some malicious remarks against the Islamic Republic of Iran. These repeated utterances indicate the dire pessimism and disillusionment of U.S. diplomacy regarding Iran. It affirms that Washington is feeling rather despondent at its failure to rein in the Islamic revolution and has not even learned the ABC's of correcting its former errors regarding Iran's system.

It is not very clear what is happening in Washington to make U.S. leaders constantly resort to the language of contempt, threats, and intimidation to forge ahead with their programs and plans in various parts of the world. Perhaps to answer this question we need firsthand information from inside the U.S. political system. A simple example, however, can assist us in comprehending to a certain extent the events taking place inside the U.S. decisionmaking centers.

Washington's leaders seem to suffer from nightmares and are convinced that their power is on the wane. This explains their constant haste and efforts to create an uproar, their threats ad nauseum, their practice of whipping up an atmosphere against others, and their efforts to denigrate them to gain something themselves.

Washington's current policy in the era of the Democrats—especially with Warren Christopher, the rookie secretary of state taking office—lacks any kind of organization or principles and was announced hastily and out of sheer confusion, but the common factor in all its nostrums is the effort to project the United States as the sole superpower. Washington wants all others to have this image of it and it approaches them from this vantage point.

The fact is that with the disintegration of the eastern bloc, the bipolar system has been dismantled. However, Washington's efforts to establish a unipolar system—in which the United States is the sole power dominating the world, bringing to power whomever it deems fit and not allowing others to interfere—has not made any headway and is not likely to, either.

The contemporary world is a totally different one, not only because of the collapse of the Soviet empire but because of the birth of the newly emerging powers. Such a world requires its own distinctive lexicon for establishing order, security, and peace. All nations should seek to evolve such a lexicon and should motivate this power on the brink of decline—which is facing increasing criticism from its own allies and is unable to dictate its will to others without resorting to threats—to accept it.

We should not forget that the officials in the current U.S. hierarchy are facing immense and increasing difficulties in imposing their views, even domestically. In their parliamentary system as well, they are unable to have their viewpoints approved by a strong majority and to implement them. The precarious situation with regard to the votes of the U.S. House of Representatives for Clinton's budget—which was approved by just two votes—indicates that in Washington itself, there is much doubt about the current government's programs.

It is quite obvious that this confusion and doubt surrounding U.S. foreign policy is becoming more and more conspicuous. The G-7 session in Tokyo was an example of the height of failure for the inexperienced U.S. politicians on the foreign policy scene. Now Washington officials wish to drag the Arabs to the negotiating table by threats of military force so they can claim the reactivation of their foreign policy.

The remarks by the U.S. representative at the Security Council on Iran assume a new meaning in this context. These remarks, which are basically an indication of Washington's defensive stance regarding the world Islamic movement, prove that the United States has

nothing new to say. It realizes with bitterness that it has no recourse but to indulge in blackmail and malicious and contemptuous words. By reviewing its performance with regard to its exercises in futility for the past 14 years, it sees itself as disgraced and unsuccessful. With heightened hostility and fury, it is seeking to resolve its difficulties to placate the impotent and blind rage of its amateur officials.

Washington's atrophied diplomacy is unable to render even the slightest assistance in achieving U.S. objectives in today's volatile world. It is for this reason that the parvenus in Washington are caught in an endless vicious circle and they continue to resort to the same ineffective methods, the worthlessness of which became apparent to U.S. officials in the past 14 years. Naturally, Mr. Christopher and his cohorts will not gain anything more than their predecessors did, even if this neophyte Christopher adopts the pose of being the head of the class and strikes Iran's name off one list and adds it to another, or even puts a multiplication sign in front of it!

### Commentary Sees 'Indifference' to Plight of Tajiks

*NC2308112993 Tehran SALAM in Persian 4 Aug 93 p 12*

[Commentary by Kamal Hoseyni: "The Domain of Iranian Culture and Civilization in Danger of a Foreign Onslaught"]

[Excerpts] "Tajiks do not consider themselves different from the Iranian nation. The people of Iran should know that we are one nation; our culture is the same; we both speak a common language, Farsi. In general we are both linked by common elements. This is why we need the greater support and backing of the people of Iran. The events taking place in Tajikistan today are not simple daily occurrences. A massacre of Muslims is under way; it is a war between the faithful and the infidels. If the communist regime remains in power, Islam will be destroyed in Tajikistan. The people of Iran should know that the Farsi-speaking Tajiks are being killed for their love of Iran and Islam. Silence in the face of such catastrophes is impermissible."

These remarks were made by a leader of the Islamic movement in Tajikistan in an Iranian newspaper and they indicate that the Muslim people of Iran are unaware of the depth of the crimes being committed against their Farsi-speaking Tajik brothers and sisters. We should determine the source of this ignorance regarding the plight of our Farsi-speaking Tajik brothers and sisters.

In this world where most countries that do not have such historical and cultural links constantly seek to expand their cultural sphere of influence, we have a longstanding record of Islamic culture and civilization and still are not devoting the necessary attention to this issue.

For example, Turkey, which has no such historical or cultural background in Central Asia, is seeking to bring these countries into the orbit of its political and cultural influence. By raising the slogan "Unity among the world's Turks," it is seeking to project itself as an example worth emulating. Turkey has been successful in attaining an active presence in all the Muslim-inhabited Central Asian republics of the former Soviet Union, even Tajikistan, and in gaining political, economic, and cultural success in these countries. [passage omitted]

In contrast, Iran unfortunately has not been very actively involved in these republics, even in the Farsi-speaking Republic of Tajikistan. Our diplomatic apparatus has shown scant attention to the events and savage massacre of Muslims there in the past eight months, usually playing the role of mere spectator.

This sort of attitude persists even though the Farsi-speaking Muslims of Tajikistan were once part of a Greater Iran and have much in common with our people. Their affection for Islamic Iran's culture and civilization is so great that in the first few days of their victory, following the disintegration of the Soviet Union, the people pulled down Lenin's statue in Dushanbe and replaced it with a statue of the Iranian poet-laureate Ferdowsi. [passage omitted]

Our Foreign Ministry has been an indifferent spectator to the events in Tajikistan, If this trend continues, Iran's national interests will be endangered and the negative fallout will affect our country soon. The ever-increasing activities of the Iranian counterrevolutionaries in Tajikistan, extensive cultural and art gatherings, symposia held by the U.S. Embassy in Dushanbe, a vast book exhibition sponsored by the U.S. Embassy to distance the Tajiks from the pure Iranian culture, and other like measures indicate cooperation and coordination between the Russians and Americans to crush the nationalistic and Islamic movements in the entire region. [passage omitted]

The presence of common historical and national bonds between our people and the people of Tajikistan—in addition to our Islamic and revolutionary obligation—enhances our responsibility toward the events in the Islamic country of Tajikistan and obligates us to pay greater attention to the overt brutality the Russians and their agents are perpetrating there.

Many among the Farsi-speaking population are living in the most squalid conditions imaginable and hundreds of Tajik scholars, students, and clerics are being subjected to torture and harassment. Who is going to convey their cries to the people of the world? Even though Iranian publications expose the atrocities committed by the Russians, with the endorsement of the West and the United States, why is the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran indifferent to the events in Tajikistan? Why doesn't the Foreign Ministry embark on a clear analysis of the situation and approach it accordingly?

Tajikistan is part of the domain of the culture and civilization of Iran and we should display greater sensitivity, more than any other country, toward these events. The Tajik people suffered for over 70 years under the yoke of the communist dictatorial regime. Hardly a few

days had elapsed and they were on their way to returning to the fold of Islamic culture and civilization when they fell prey to plots hatched by foreigners and the residual elements of the former regime.

The main reason for the deep-rooted malice and anger of foreigners toward the Tajik Muslims can be found in the remarks of the leader of the Islamic party who said: "Farsi-speaking Tajiks are being killed for their affection for Islam and Iran." It is our duty to hasten to the aid of the oppressed Tajik people and not forsake them in their difficult time of need.

### Government Promises To Release Kuwaiti Fishermen

*LD2208114093 Tehran IRNA in English 1042 GMT 22 Aug 93*

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 22, (IRNA)—The Islamic Republic of Iran has promised the Kuwaiti Government to provide facilities for the release of about 10 Kuwaiti fishermen who had illegally entered Iranian territorial waters.

KUWAITI NEWS AGENCY had earlier reported that Iran's Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati in his recent meeting with Kuwaiti parliament speaker 'Abd-al-Aziz Assadoun had promised to cooperate for the release of confiscated fishing boats and equipments belonging to the Kuwaiti fishermen.

"Given the good neighborly relations and the existing goodwill between the two countries, we have initiated efforts to release confiscated fishing equipments and Kuwaiti fishermen who have entered our territorial waters," Foreign Ministry spokesman Mahmoud Mohammadi told IRNA here Sunday.

"However", he noted, "entry of regional fishermen into territorial waters of other Persian Gulf countries is quite probable".

But, the spokesman stressed, "we show goodwill towards friendly countries in this respect."

Pointing to the last week rescue of two Omani youths by patrol boats of Iran's law enforcement forces in the Gulf of Oman, he underlined the need for cooperation among law enforcement forces of regional countries in order to resolve similar problems.

Meanwhile, an informed source told IRNA that so far some ten Kuwaiti fishermen have been arrested for illegally entering Iranian territorial waters at intervals.

### MKO Warns Regime Against 'Exporting Terrorism'

*NC2208092993 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0805 GMT 22 Aug 93*

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Aug (MENA)—The Iranian opposition organization Mojahedin-e Khalq [MKO] has warned the Tehran regime against exporting its terrorism abroad, vowing it will retaliate inside Iranian territory. The organization urged the UN secretary general and the Security Council to boycott the Iranian regime, which is using religion as a cover, in view of its violation of human rights.

In a statement to a MENA correspondent in Baghdad today, the MKO spokesman in Iraq disclosed that a number of the Iranian regime's agents attacked a building in Baghdad inhabited by old women who belong to MKO on Friday night. The spokesman said that there was only material damage to the rooms and no one was hurt.

The MKO office in Baghdad held the Iranian regime responsible for this terrorist action, stressing its right to defend itself against this kind of malicious operations.

### Attempt on Egyptian Minister's Life Viewed

*NC1908190193 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0345 GMT 19 Aug 93*

[Commentary by News Commentaries Group]

[Text] With the unsuccessful assassination attempt on Egyptian Interior Minister Major General Muhammad Hasan al-Alfi in Cairo yesterday, the series of terrorist acts in Egypt entered a new phase. The Egyptian interior minister, who is considered one of the initiators of this bloody series of killings, himself became a victim of this blind chain reaction and had to enter the hospital.

Ever since Major General al-Alfi assumed the post of interior minister a few months ago, the policy of suppressing the Islamist forces has crested and innumerable Egyptians have become victims of the brutal policy of cracking down on Islamists. Of course, right at the outset, most political analysts predicted that force would spawn more force and the policy of suppression could not resolve social and political problems. It has constantly been stressed that the solution to social and political problems requires expediency and organization rather than force.

Unfortunately, the superficial outlook of certain Egyptian leaders has brought the security situation to the point where the security forces have become unable to ensure their own safety. Meanwhile, the Zionist regime is seeking to fan this trend of the use of force and killings in Egypt and—by carrying out a series of bloody explosions for which no Egyptian group has assumed responsibility—has striven to bestow so-called legitimacy on the repressive policy of the Egyptian Government and to intensify it.

Islamism is a longstanding ideological and cultural phenomenon that has emerged as a sociopolitical issue in Egyptian society. In such circumstances, is it actually possible to resolve such deep-rooted sociopolitical phenomena with force and suppression? Is it not true that a repressive approach to social, political, and cultural issues will turn them into major security problems for the system? Would it not be more appropriate if instead of continuing to blindly

enforce coercion and violence the Egyptian rulers were to open the path of political participation to all strata of society and adopt a policy of peace with their nation? They should now relinquish the course of following a despotic system that cannot have a happy outcome and thus end these daily bloody incidents.

In the view of political analysts, the Egyptian Government, which is at war with its own people and against the deep-rooted Islamic culture, cannot emerge victorious. Therefore, it appears that a reappraisal of the government's policy of mass arrest of Muslims and a halt to the merciless executions of Muslim youth would be a suitable beginning for extricating itself from this chain of killings and crises.

## Nepal & Bhutan

### Nepal, India Meet To Check 'Serious' Soil Erosion

*BK2108160093 Hong Kong AFP in English 1549 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Text] Kathmandu, Aug 21 (AFP)—Ministers from Nepal and India held talks at Rajbiraj, southeast of here, to check serious soil erosion after the Koshi River flooded its banks, a Water Resources Ministry official said Saturday [21 August].

"The spate of Himalayan rivers is gradually receding in the hilly areas of the kingdom, but it is gravely threatening the Nepal southeastern lowland belt as well as villages in the Indian state of Bihar adjoining the Nepalese border," the official, who declined to be named, said.

The Indian delegation was led by Bihar Chief Minister Laloo Prasad Yadav while the Nepalese team was led by Minister of State for Water Resources Laxman Prasad Ghimire.

At Rajbiraj, 180 kilometres (112 miles) to the southeast, ministers checked the serious erosion caused by heavy Koshi River flooding over the past 72 hours near the Mahendra embankment 17 kilometres (11 miles) north of the Koshi main barrage, the official said.

Both delegations also visited the Koshi embankment site on Friday to assess the threat of the Koshi river to both Nepalese and Indian villages, the official said.

"If the soil erosion is not stopped immediately, it may cause heavy flooding which might engulf several hundred villages in Koshi and adjoining Sagarmatha zones and many villages in Bihar," he said.

"If the massive erosion can somehow be checked for the time being, counstruction works to control the Koshi River can be started this winter as per the master plan of the Koshi control project," he said.

He said that of the 300-metre (yard) wide area lying closer to the Mahendra embankment, only 60metres (yards) of embankment remains unaffected so far.

"But if the erosion is not controlled to save the remaining 60-metre width, over 100,000 people on both sides of Nepal and India would perish," he added.

### Bhutan's King Wangchuk Welcomes India's Rao 21 Aug

*BK2108084893 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0730 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Text] The prime minister, Mr. P.V. Narasimha Rao, was accorded a warm welcome when he arrived at Paro, Bhutan today. He was received at the airport by the King of Bhutan, Mr. Jigme Singye Wangchuk. The others present included the Indian ambassador to Bhutan, Mr. Pushkar Johri, members of the Bhutan's council of ministers, and diplomats. As soon as Mr. Narasimha Rao landed, 19 guns boomed in salute and a guard of honor was inspected by the prime minister. The motorcade carrying the prime minister to the royal palace stepped at (Chongdu), from where he was taken in a ceremonial parade with Bhutanese traditional music and dance. Students lined on both sides of the route of the prime minister. At royal palace, the prime minister and the King of Bhutan had a one- to-one dialogue. The details of the deliberations will be officially known in the evening after second round of talks between Mr. Narasimha Rao and the King.

### Indian 'Commitment' to Bhutan Stressed

*BK2108161093 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Text] The prime minister has reiterated India's commitment to extend full cooperation to Bhutan in its developmental efforts. This was stated by an official spokesman after two rounds of talks between Mr. P.V. Narasimha Rao, and King Jigme Singye Wangchuk at Paro in Bhutan today. The talks were held in a free, frank, and warm atmosphere. Both the leaders reaffirmed their resolve to strengthen their traditional ties of cooperation between the two neighboring countries.

Briefing newsmen about the talks, the spokesman said that Mr. Narasimha Rao recalled the visit of the king to India in January this year which helped him in reinforcing bilateral understanding and cooperation. During the visit the signing of the memorandum of understanding on the Sankosh hydro-electric power project was a landmark in bilateral ties. India had also agreed to pay a higher tariff to the power purchased from the Chhukha hydro-electric power project which is largely funded by it. India pays over 40 crore rupees for the power it purchases from Bhutan.

Reviewing the possibilities of further cooperation, the two leaders referred to the Kuru Chu power projects in Eastern Bhutan work on which is likely to start soon. AIR [All India Radio] Correspondent Mohan Singh, covering the prime minister's visit reports, that India is also likely to present to the Bhutan government the detailed project of Chhukha-Tala project in the next few days.

The two leaders also reviewed the general situation in the Indian subcontinent, bilateral cooperation, SAARC [South Asian Association For Regional Cooperation] and other issues.

## Pakistan

### Muslim League-Nawayz Group Reacts to Qureshi Speech

*BK2108094593 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0200 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Text] Sartaj Aziz, the secretary general of the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz group, has said that the caretaker government should desist from making policy decisions having far-reaching implications and that these decisions should be left to the parliament. He said the caretaker government should pay attention to the holding of free and fair elections only, because that is its only mandate.

Sartaj Aziz was commenting on caretaker Prime Minister Moin Qureshi's speech on Thursday [19 August]. He, however, described the prime minister's statement as an endorsement of the policies and priorities of the Nawaz Sharif government. He said the political uncertainty and confusion created during the past few months had given rise to a serious financial crisis. He welcomed the decisions that the people—who borrowed heavily from the state-owned banks but either did not pay them back or had them waived—will be debarred from contesting elections so long as they do not pay off those loans.

A senior spokesman of the Pakistan People's Party has said that even though the party agrees with the caretaker prime minister's assertion that large-scale measures are needed to avert a financial crisis, the party holds different views on many steps which might adversely affect the poor and the agricultural and industrial sectors. Referring to a meeting between the caretaker prime minister and the party cochairperson [Benazir Bhutto] before the announcement of the economic reform package, the spokesman said the measures that might create difficulties for the people should be clarified. He said even though Benazir Bhutto agrees to the principle of imposing a tax on agricultural income, she has expressed concern over it and questioned if this move will be appropriate at a time when the declining trend in agricultural production is increasing and incentives and concessions are needed for this vital sector of the economy. She maintained that if the farmers are not being given the prices of their produce at an international rate, then it is inappropriate to force them to pay international-level prices for necessary agricultural inputs such as fertilizers. Benazir Bhutto has said that the provision of loans at an interest rate of 22 percent will slacken industrial activities, which actually need to be accelerated immediately. She has also expressed her opposition to the measures that will lead to a rise in the prices of daily consumer goods, like wheat, vegetables, and ghee.

### Prime Minister Addresses Press in Karachi 21 Aug

#### Comments on Economic Policies

*BK2108144493 Islamabad PTV Television Network in English 1400 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Text] The caretaker prime minister, Mr. Moin Ahmad Qureshi, has vowed to take stringent measures for putting the country's economy on sound lines, so that the future government could find a sound basis to run the country. Addressing the press prior to his departure for Islamabad at the Qaid-i-Azam International Airport in Karachi this afternoon, the caretaker prime minister said he has adopted the difficult path only to salvage the economy of the country. He said the measures he has initiated were timely and the need of the hour, and could not have been delayed any longer.

[Begin Qureshi recording] I firmly believe that our tax program and our economic program must be equitable. It must be a just program. It is heavily tilted today; the measures that I have introduced are heavily tilted in terms of affecting and impacting on the wealthier segments of society, particularly those segments of society, which are not today paying their full share to society. And I believe that I do not want that the prices—the price increases that have taken place, for example, in petroleum as well as in some of the other items—that they should hit the poorer segments of society. So, that is why we have provided some relief, because you must have a society that is just and that is seen to be just. [end recording]

Mr. Moin Qureshi said his government's intentions were clear and it will surely follow the course set forth for it and there will be no deviations. The prime minister made it crystal clear that elections in Pakistan will be held on schedule in October this year as announced. However, for running the country on sound lines, the government has to be vigilant, so that other important things do not go out of sight, he added.

Referring to the price situation, he said the government is fully conscious about it and will see to it that it remains under control, so that things do not go beyond the reach of the common man. He said the best course for curbing this tendency is to stop printing notes and halt budget deficit. In this connection, he said the State Bank of Pakistan has been made fully autonomous, so that it could deal with financial matters freely and without any pressures. Mr. Moin Qureshi said the government in principle has decided to curtail its unproductive expenditure and added that a number of diplomatic missions rendering no service to Pakistan will be closed down.

Replying to a question about privatization, the prime minister said the insurance business will be opened to the private sector soon. He said steps taken by the government will surely pay dividends.

### Views Domestic Issues, Ties With U.S.

*BK2108161493 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1500 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Text] Caretaker Prime Minister Moin Qureshi has reaffirmed the government's firm resolve to hold the elections on schedule and to bring about basic economic reforms, which will provide a sound basis to the newly elected government for balanced economic development in the country. Addressing a news conference at the Karachi airport on the last leg of his visit to Karachi this afternoon, the prime minister said he has been very much impressed with the steps that the Sindh government has taken or wishes to take to hold the upcoming elections.

Answering a question, the prime minister said he wants all parties, including the Muhajir Qaumi Movement, to participate in the election process. He said every Pakistani reserves the right to exercise his right of franchise. The people should elect only those candidates who are most suitable and the prospects of a truly democratic setup lie in this process.

About any political party member, against whom cases are pending in the courts, the prime minister said such persons should come and face the situation and prove their innocence. He said he cannot withdraw cases against such persons to allow them to return to the country and take part in elections.

Answering a question, the prime minister said the army is not being withdrawn from Sindh, and we want it to remain in the province for some more time. He commended the role played by the army in maintaining law and order and said the situation in the interior areas of Sindh has totally changed. Nobody will be prevented from organizing public rallies or running his election campaign despite the enforcement of Section 144 [prohibiting assembly of four more persons at one place] in certain areas of Karachi. Moin Qureshi said his government is attaching great importance to the development of the social sector and they will make efforts to provide additional resources for the implementation of social sector programs in the Sindh.

Replying to a question about the publication of the list of the candidates who have not paid back their loans or who have had their loans waived, the prime minister said the Election Commission will be provided with this list. The commission will assess the eligibility of these candidates.

Answering yet another question about the action being considered by the government against tax evaders, Moin Qureshi said the government cannot take action against every person in a short period of time, but it will definitely take action against certain big shots who are not paying their bills and taxes. Legal action will be taken against them and their property will be confiscated.

On a question about narcotics, the prime minister said the government is launching a drive against narcotics smugglers against whom solid and clear evidence is available. Moin Qureshi said the present government wishes to make Pakistan a modern Islamic state in accordance with Islamic principles and various programs and measures initiated by the present government are directed toward that end.

Answering a question about the U.S.-Pakistan relations, Moin Qureshi said the Pakistan-U.S. ties faced problems because of certain misunderstandings in the past. He said we should accept the fact that the United States is the sole superpower and that is why we should maintain good relations with it. Maintaining good relations with Pakistan is also in the U.S. interest because of our age-old tradition of friendly relations and Pakistan's considerable influence in the Islamic world. He said Pakistan desires to maintain friendly relations with all neighboring countries and wants nonproliferation of weapons and easing of tension in this region, which is also the policy and objective of the United States.

## Outbreak of Sectarian Violence Reported in Gilgit

### Radio Reports 'More Than 20' Killed

*BK2008100593 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 20 Aug 93*

[Text] Reports reaching Islamabad from Gilgit in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir say that more than 20 people have been killed following an outbreak of sectarian violence yesterday. Dozens of others are reported to have been injured. AIR Islamabad's correspondent Suresh Chopra understands that an indefinite curfew has been imposed in Gilgit city. The army troops, who are patrolling the streets, have been given shoot-at-sight orders. All communication links with the area have been disrupted.

### Qureshi Issues Statement on Incidents

*BK2008152993 Islamabad PTV Television Network in English 1400 GMT 20 Aug 93*

[Text] The prime minister, Mr. Moin Qureshi, has expressed his deep grief at the incident in Gilgit yesterday, involving loss of precious human lives and injuries, and disturbance in the law and order situation in that area. In a statement issued in Islamabad today, the prime minister strongly condemned the senseless loss of human lives and has asked for an immediate report to get to the real reasons behind this tragic incident. Giving a strong warning, Mr. Moin Qureshi said he is determined to end such lawlessness and criminal activities throughout the country and will make sure that those guilty are caught and punished with full force of law. The statement said orders have already issued to round up immediately the ring leaders and other miscreants involved in this incident. He has also directed for a trial of these criminal elements by a special court to meet justice in a speedy manner.

The statement said it is a matter of deep concern that such incidents have been occurring in that area since 1988 and the local administration has failed so far to take necessary [word indistinct] measures and to effectively control the situation. It is the duty of the administration not only to maintain law and order but to create an environment in which there is respect for law in the minds of the people. They must also actively work toward promoting harmony and understanding among the people so that they live in friendship and peace. Directives have also been issued to review the administrative set up in the northern areas to identify its weakness, he said, adding that he would ensure that necessary resources are provided to enable the administrative setup discharge their duties in an effective manner. The prime minister appealed to all ulema to cooperate in creating a peaceful and healthy environment not only in northern areas but all over the country.

### Rival Tensions Said To Recede

*BK2108145493 Islamabad PTV Television Network in English 1400 GMT 21 Aug 93*

[Text] The law and order situation in Gilgit has improved with tension between rival groups lessening perceptively. The prompt actions taken by the army and other law-enforcing agencies have brought the situation in Gilgit to normal. A handout issued by the district magistrate, Gilgit, today says nine people lost their lives, while 11 were seriously injured during the clashes which lasted three days. Medical aid is being provided to those injured in the clashes. The handout says 29 persons were arrested for carrying unlicensed firearms. Curfew was relaxed for two hours from 0900 to 1100 this morning to enable the people to buy essential goods. A high-level meeting in Gilgit reviewed the law and order situation this afternoon. The meeting took a number of decisions to bring the situation back to normal in the shortest possible time.

### 'High-Level' Meeting Reviews Security Situation

*BK2008041693 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0200 GMT 20 Aug 93*

[Text] A high-level meeting in Islamabad reviewed the security situation in the country, with special reference to the law and order situation in Sindh. The meeting was presided over by Prime Minister Moin Qureshi. Army Chief General Abdul Waheed and Interior Minister F.K. Bandial, Law Minister Shakurul Salam and high civil and military officials attended the meeting. Lieutenant General Nasir Akhtar briefed the meeting in details about the law and order situation in Sindh.

### Armed Forces Reaffirm 'Impartial Attitude' in Politics

*BK2008160493 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1500 GMT 20 Aug 93*

[Text] A press release issued by the Inter-Services Public Relations says that the Armed Forces, owing to their non-political nature and total commitment to their profession, believe in clean democracy and that they will maintain their impartial attitude. The press release says, whoever tries to create a negative impression against this clarification will not render any service to the nation. The clarification has been issued as several prominent figures and writers have expressed their views on several current topics under discussion, including constitutional reforms, establishing a national security council, selection of a presidential candidate for the upcoming elections, the role of the Armed Forces in the formation of the caretaker government, and its support for any political party or group. These people have given the impression that they are interpreting the views of the Armed Forces. In fact, this impression is totally wrong. The views expressed by these people are their personal views, and the Armed Forces are not desirous of playing any role in any kind of political crisis. Nor have they made any proposal for the establishment of a national security council.

### Ex-Army Chief: U.S. Against Fundamentalist Parties

*BK1908053993 Islamabad THE NEWS in English 17 Aug 93 p 11*

[Text] Quetta—Former Army Chief Gen (Retd) Mirza Aslam Beg has observed that the United States will not allow any 'fundamentalist' party like Pakistan Islamic Front of Qazi Hussain Ahmed to make the government even if the people voted for it in the coming elections.

Talking to newsmen at a dinner hosted by JWP [Jamhoori Watan Party] leader Shamim Afridi here Friday [13 August] night, the retired general said if Benazir Bhutto or Nawaz Sharif were given the mandate, the US would not interfere in the election process and subsequent transfer of power to the elected government in the country.

He said although the US was not an enemy of Pakistan, it would not like any 'fundamentalist' government in global interests in its emerging world order. Beg opined that the Americans believed that Pakistan, Iran and Afghanistan were spreading fundamentalism in the region and in the newly liberated Central Asian republics. Beg cited it the reason for Afghanistan not having an effective government yet. He said if the 'fundamentalists' won the elections in Pakistan and attempted to form the government, they might also face difficulties due to the presssures from the US.

While reviewing the global situation, Gen (retd) Aslam Beg said the US was fully supporting Russia so that the Central Asian states could be tackled in case of increasing 'fundamentalism' there. Similarly, he said, Israel and India were fed by the US to check the whole Muslim world in Middle East and South Asia. He warned that the growing collaboration between Israel and India was not only confined to curb the popular uprising in the Indian held Kashmir, but it might be a big threat to Pakistan as well.

Referring to the nuclear issue, he said the US was convinced that Pakistan's nuclear programme was merely an effort to maintain balance of power with India. Now, he said, the US desired that the nuclear technology should not be passed on to any other fundamentalist Muslim country and Pakistan had no such intentions.

However, Beg ruled out that the US used to govern Pakistan's politics through invisible strings. But, he said, the US would certainly interfere if it smelled any threeat to its interests. Otherwise, the US had no interests in our business, he added.

When asked about his role during the Kuwait crisis, the former army chief said "I don't think that the US would be annoyed due to my criticism on that operation. The US leadership is used to facing criticism as it is part of democracy. Even in the US, the people criticise the government's decisions and this criticism is accepted with an open mind."

Commenting on his future political plans, the former COAS [Chief of Armed Services] said all options were open and he was studying the scenario to determine his future course of action. He said during the last week he had exchanged views with many politicians, including Nawabsada Nasrullah Khan, Nawaz Sharif and some others to decide whether he should join any of the two leading parties of the country—PPP [Pakistan People's Party] and PML (N) [Pakistan Muslim League]—or form a new political party of his own to wage a struggle for the real democracy in the country.

However, he said, he would be able to take a decision within a week to determine his role in the forthcoming elections. "My visit to Quetta is part or my consultations with selected politicians and from here I would fly to Rawalpindi and then to Peshawar to have discussions with some other politicians and, thereafter, I would announce my next programme...soon," he added.

Commenting on the recent political turmoil in the country, Gen (retd) Aslam Beg [said] the situation had become so explosive as the assemblies were not concentrating on their prime objective, legislation making. He suggested that a committee of the constitutional experts should be constituted to revise the Constitution in view of the horrible experiences in the past.